



TRAVEL

Stepping out
at the bottom
of the world



REVIEW

The brave men who
fought unwinnable
war at Gallipoli

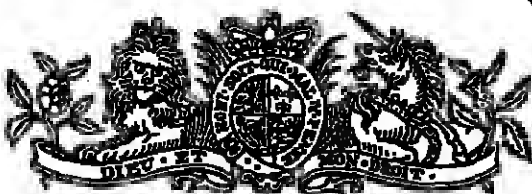
BOOKS

Miles Davis
mugged by his
own words

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THE



TIMES

1200

90p

SATURDAY MARCH 3 1990

Thatcher hits back at poll tax criticism

Shetland leads way with the lowest rate

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister will today launch a defiant defence of the poll tax and attempt to reassure alarmed Conservatives in Westminster and the country.

As Mrs Thatcher prepared to face down her critics at the party's local government conference in London today, she was given ammunition to justify her position when Wandsworth council set a poll tax figure £23 below the Whitehall target.

The Wandsworth community charge will not, however, be the lowest in Britain. That will be the £127.30 to be levied in the Shetland Isles, although the area's small population and the presence of the North Sea oil installations mean Shetland is widely regarded as a one-off case.

The average charge in Scotland this year will be £328, a rise of £27 over last year. The highest is in Edinburgh, where the capital's population will pay £438, £46 more than last year; and the lowest on the mainland is in Sutherland, at £232.

The charges for other cities include £338 in Glasgow, from £306 last year; £305 in Aberdeen, up £1; and £336 in Dundee, a £12 increase.

There was more bad news for the Conservatives yesterday when the former Mayor

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in Brighton followed the example of 18 West Oxfordshire councillors and resigned the party whip.

As the town council prepared for a second all-night attempt to fix its community charge, Mr Robert Crisofoli said: "The party is committing political suicide over the tax. It is time the Prime Minister and her gang of lemmings realised that the country should come first". He said the Tories faced being "slaughtered" in the local government elections in May.

With a Labour lead of 18.5 points in the latest opinion poll and the Government facing serious economic difficulties, Mrs Thatcher will today be making one of her most crucial speeches since becoming Prime Minister.

Ministers are, however, braced for a barrage of criticism. The revolt around England continued yesterday, even reaching the Prime Minister's home town of Grantham. There, 10 Conservatives demanded that council cash reserves be used to trim £18 from the £278 charge, but were defeated.

In Langbaurgh, Cleveland, Conservative absences left Labour councillors in a majority of one on the finance committee, and they proceeded to refuse to recommend a community charge, voted to abolish the tax and

decided to send a protest letter to Mrs Thatcher. A council spokesman said "this slight hiccup" would be corrected at the full council meeting. Darlington's "hung" district council set a £356 community charge, then demanded a general election on the issue.

Mr David Hunt, the Minister for Local Government, led the chorus of approval for Wandsworth, hailing its announcement as a "superb" result. He compared the figure with neighbouring Labour-controlled Lambeth, which he claimed was charging £650, and said: "We have seen how Labour's policy in London is the highest charge they can get away with. Wandsworth's charge is an exemplification of Conservative policy - the lowest consistent with a proper level of service."

But the Wandsworth figure, was derided by senior Labour politicians as an attempt to take pressure off the Government. While other London boroughs paid into the safety net, Wandsworth received £24 million in safety net grant.

Mr David Blunkett, the Opposition spokesman on local government, accused the Government of manipulating the grant system to reward councils such as Wandsworth while punishing everyone else. "It is little more than political bribery," he said.

As Conservative MPs returned to their constituencies, a succession of the Prime Minister's most senior colleagues sought to steady the party's nerve by highlighting the record of high-spending Labour-controlled councils.

Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, said in Portsmouth that councils had to get their spending under control. While it was always difficult changing to a new system, the logic of the community charge was irrefutable. It was better that everyone paid something and without such a system it was unlikely that sensible local government would ever emerge.

Curb on pilots' hours will raise air fares

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Air fares will have to rise by at least 7 per cent as scheduled airlines throughout Europe are forced to employ an additional 3,800 pilots at a cost of more than £320 million a year to meet new regulations limiting flying hours now being proposed by the European Commission.

Airlines were only told of the new proposals in detail last week and immediately warned that if they are adopted schedules could be thrown into chaos and many small airlines

could fold. The proposals are in a draft regulation due to be discussed by the Council of Ministers in June, and could become law by the summer and be in full effect within the next two years.

The change would reduce the number of hours pilots could fly to no more than eight in any one day and 720 hours in a full year - 25 per cent below the strict limits already imposed by the Civil Aviation Authority.

BA costs fears, page 4

Scots pressure holds back the clock

By Quentin Cowdry, Home Affairs Correspondent

Ministers are to postpone further discussion of whether British time should be harmonized with the rest of Europe because they fear it will embroil the Government in yet more controversy.

The Government, which at one stage mildly favoured the proposal, intended to allow MPs a free vote on the issue over the next few weeks to pave the way for a possible time-changing Bill in the next parliamentary session. Harmonization would mean mean clocks going one hour ahead of Greenwich Mean Time in

winter and two hours in summer. The new system, technically known as "single-double summer time" would mean lighter summer evenings and darker winter mornings, with the biggest changes felt in the North of England and in Scotland.

However, ministers worried about the hostility harmonization has provoked in Scotland and the Government's generally embattled position, believe the question should be delayed.

Senior Whitehall sources said yesterday Brussels was

keen that Britain should follow the rest of the European Community and put its clocks back in September rather than October, but was not pressing for complete harmonization.

Mr Angus Crichton-Miller, chairman of the Daylight Action Group, which has been pressing for Britain to "Europeanize" its time, said: "We are very disappointed that the Government has decided to prevaricate."

He said independent research indicated that harmonization would save

Royal praise for Glasgow's cultural heritage



Glasgow greeting: The Queen being welcomed at Central Station yesterday by the Lord Provost, Mrs Susan Baird, at the start of a day of royal pageantry.

Israelis censor settler reports

By Richard Owen, Gilo, Israel, and Martin Fletcher, Washington

Israel imposed censorship yesterday on news items relating to Jewish immigration, as tensions with its Arab neighbours and the United States rose over the continuing flow of Jews into the occupied territories.

The US has threatened to curtail aid over the influx of Jews into disputed territory in the belief that it threatens prospects for peace talks.

The Bush Administration has said it will give Israel \$400 million (£239 million) in

housing-loan guarantees, to settle Soviet Jews, only if it receives binding assurances that the immigrants will not be settled in the occupied territories, Mr James Baker.

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the US Secretary of State, said this week. Earlier he said Moscow had "genuine concern" that Israel would settle Soviet Jews in the West Bank.

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the

Israeli Prime Minister, yesterday rejected the linkage of US aid and the issue of Jewish settlements in occupied land. A spokesman for him denied, however, that the censorship rules were being imposed because of any "political motivation". The step had been taken because of "threats by various Palestinian organizations against immigration and immigrants".

Officials said yesterday that Israel was anxious to ensure that the flow of immigrants

was not impeded, and to find sufficient funds to give them jobs and housing. Mr Shamir regards the influx of Soviet Jews as one of the "greatest blessings" since Israel was founded in 1948. On Monday, an Arab League delegation arrives in Moscow to persuade Soviet leaders to reduce the flow of Soviet immigrants, and Israeli officials fear that speculation over the high numbers of Jews going to Israel could undermine immigration to Israel proper.

Proud title handed on

By Kerry Gill

Glasgow's celebration as European City of Culture will leave a lasting legacy to the spirit of Europe, the Queen said during a visit to mark the official handover of the title from Paris.

Speaking at a civic lunch attended by M Jacques Chirac, the Mayor of Paris, the Queen said it was clear that Glasgow, which the industrial revolution had made famous throughout the world, was still demonstrating an international

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Lyons letter to Thatcher

Sir Jack Lyons, a defendant in the Guinness affair trial, wrote to the Prime Minister asking that the company's bid for the Distillers group should not be referred to the monopolies authorities. Southwark Crown Court was told yesterday after Mrs Thatcher accepted his invitation to a lunch with leading industrialists. Page 3

New leader

Sales play their first international match under Ron Atkinson, their new coach, when they meet Scotland at Wembley. A win for Scotland will keep them on course for the grand slam. Page 49



Mr Crichton-Miller: Britain faces "wurst of all worlds".

Revitalising the Highlands.

One of the many surprising facts about the Highlands and Islands Development Board (HIDB) is that it still

operates, using methods help create employment are broadly similar to those used in the past. The current private capital enterprise allows it to play a much more active role in determining the jobs.

Yet the HIDB does its job or fails would be a reason for up. In spite of this, the future with optimism.

In the biological organisms survive adapting to meet their environment.

It is to the credit of the HIDB that they have strength and the ability to do just that. The long-running concern 'Highland Problem', which has lasted for hundreds of years.

In the last century, the Highland Problem was well beyond the call of the inhabitant in



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As is the dashboard, finished in polished rosewood.

In addition, SE and 2.0 litre versions have Alcantara suede upholstery, split folding rear seats and an electric glass sunroof. While the top-of-the-range 2.0 litre SE has ABS and Automatic Suspension Control, which adapts itself to suit your chosen driving style — enhancing comfort and safety. All as standard.

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T H E N E W L A N C I A D E D R A



Prime Minister at lunch with defendant as DTI investigated Guinness

Personal plea to Thatcher in takeover war



Sir Jack Lyons: "A senior and influential City figure."

A defendant in the Guinness affair trial wrote to the Prime Minister asking that the company's bid for the Distillers group should not be referred to the monopolies authorities, it was disclosed in court yesterday.

And within five weeks of the Department of Trade and Industry beginning its investigation into the takeover, the accepted his invitation to a high-powered lunch with leading industrialists, Southwark Crown Court was told.

Sir Jack Lyons's letter asked for an "even-handed decision", his barrister Mr Robert Harman, QC, told the court, and about two weeks later the bid was cleared.

Sir Jack, Ernest Saunders, the former chairman and chief executive of Guinness, Gerald Ronson, chairman of Heron International, and the stockbroker Anthony Parnes deny 24 counts of theft, false accounting and breaches of the Companies Act.

Mr Harman said that about five weeks after the Department of Trade and Industry began its inquiry, the Prime Minister attended a lunch at Sir Jack's invitation at Bain and Co, management consul-

ants to Guinness. Mr Olivier Roux, Guinness's former finance director, agreed that was the case, adding that she had stipulated that the present establishment at Guinness should not be there. Leading industrialists were present.

Turning to the letter, Mr Harman said it was sent on March 3, 1986, days after Guinness decided to make a second bid for Distillers. The first had been dropped after being referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The letter said: "Despite the fact that 90 per cent of Scotch whisky goes overseas, Mr Saunders's hopes were dashed when the company's bid for Distillers was referred. It seems to have been based on the narrow issue of sales in the UK. The opposing bidder, Argyll plc, were not referred as they are a supermarket group whose experience of the liquor business, and especially international import is at the cheap end of the market."

"Guinness withdrew their original bid and proceeded to launch a new bid which not only contained terms more favourable to the shareholders of Distillers, but was one in

which the Distillers company agreed to sell off certain brands so that any fear of UK competition was eliminated."

"I am writing to you personally because I am concerned with the fact the right stewardship for the Scottish whisky industry is an important national matter, more at this time than ever during your leadership, and that the next decision probably due within the next one to three days, should not be left to the Office of Fair Trading or a junior Department of Trade and Industry minister because of a relation-

ship of the Secretary of State.

"I do therefore hope that you take steps that will lead to an even-handed decision."

Mr Harman explained that because the then Secretary of State, Mr Paul Channon, was a member of the Guinness family, he had handed responsibility for the issue to Mr Geoffrey Pattie.

The Prime Minister replied two days later that the decision was not a "collective government" one, but a matter for Mr Pattie.

The reply said: "Paul Channon has, as you say, delegated this particular decision to the minister of state Geoffrey Pattie. I feel that Geoffrey Pattie should know the contents of your letter, but as you marked the envelope private and personal I would not want to pass it to him unless you wished me to do so. Perhaps you could telephone my office if you would like this to be done."

Mr Harman said he did not object to the suggestion, the court was told. "Then within about a fortnight Guinness was notified that their second bid should not be referred," Mr Harman said.

Questioned by Mr Harman, Mr Roux said he had seen a draft of the letter, but did not recall the answer to it.

He agreed that the decision not to refer the bid was welcomed with a sigh of relief. "It meant we could go on and try to win, as opposed to being subject to the whims of the political process."

Mr Harman said the "unilateral" of the bid had been to everybody's mind. Mr Saunders and another Guinness director, Mr Thomas Ward, believed Sir Jack's intervention had been "crucial" in that process.

Companies Act; two of false accounting and one of theft.

Anthony Parnes, 44, of London, faces five charges of false accounting and two of theft.

Sir Jack Lyons, 74, of Kensington, west London, faces one charge of conspiring to contravene the Companies Act; one of conspiring to contravene the Companies Act; one of aiding Saunders to contravene the Companies Act; four of false accounting; and one of theft.

CHARGES

Two years for man who tried to sell stolen works of art

By Sarah Jane Checkland and David Sapsted

An Irishman who tried to sell some of the world's finest paintings, stolen from the Beit Collection in a £30 million arts theft in 1986, was sentenced to two years in prison at Southwark Crown Court in London yesterday.

Detectives said that the conviction brought them no nearer to solving Ireland's biggest art theft, which took place at the home of Sir Alfred Beit, the South African diamond magnate, in County Wicklow.

The 17 paintings stolen included Velasquez's "Kneeling Man with the Supper at Emmaus", Frans Hals' "The Lute Player", Vermeer's "The Astronomer" and the portrait of "Donna Antonia Zarate" by Goya. Six were recovered after the raid and police in Turkey are questioning a Scotsman about the robbery following the discovery of another picture a few days ago.

John Naughton, aged 48, formerly of Dublin, admitted dishonestly handling stolen goods from the Beit Collection. Mr Anthony Leonard, prosecuting, told the court that Naughton was trusted "by well-organized, high-level thieves" with disposing of some of the collection.

Naughton was arrested by New Scotland Yard's Art and Antique Squad in May last year after he was contacted by Mr Trevor Henry Hallwood, a London art dealer. He was approached by Naughton in March 1988 and was initially offered £400,000 (assumed to be "The Cottage Girl", a 13 pictures were

gradually introduced but never seen. They included a Guardi, Meissner and a Goya.

Naughton went to see the dealer one day, told him to cancel whatever he was doing, as they had to move quickly to Geneva where the client was waiting. The dealer's cut would be £500,000, he said.

When Mr Hallwood asked if the client was the IRA, Naughton said "No, but they are big time art thieves."

The dealer had taped a conversation with Naughton. He offered to telephone the police and the Irishman panicked, saying that, if he did, they would both be killed.

Mr Peter Feinberg, defending, told the court that Naughton was a "Walter Mittyish character" who made no profit from the venture whatsoever. "He was a fish completely out of water at the end of the line. He's an extremely naive man and this was a completely unreal world for him," counsel said.

Judge Robert Taylor said: "I accept that you are somebody who in the past has been a hard worker and a decent and honest man. I also accept that you are a Walter Mittyish character who was naive and very much out of your depth."

"The difficulty I have in your case is that you acted on behalf of professional thieves to dispose of extremely valuable paintings when a great deal of money is at stake."

"It is because people like you lead yourself to this type of conduct that thieves are enabled to reap the proceeds of this type of professional crime."

She also extracted huge sums from British Telecom and the Electricity Board by resubmitting their bills. British Telecom sent her a cheque for £126,000.

Over nine months, Riley, a mother of two children, duped the Eastern Electricity Board by claiming it owed her £79,000 for an "electrical substation" in her back garden; claimed that British Telecom owed £500,000 for a "damage claim"; took a cheque from

Inspector takes stock of the flood of claims



Mr Shaun Lloyd, an insurance claims inspector, making his way through the streets of Towyn yesterday as a few residents returned to check the damage.

Deception charges

Woman cheated council and companies out of £900,000

A woman council worker cheated companies and ratepayers out of nearly £900,000 by sending back bills submitted to the council and claiming that the companies owed her money, Southwark Crown Court, south London, was told yesterday.

Navet Riley, a clerk, duped Camden Council in London out of £37,000 and went on to secure credit worth hundreds of thousands of pounds after dishonestly obtaining mortgages and reversing standing orders, it was said.

She also extracted huge sums from British Telecom and the Electricity Board by resubmitting their bills. British Telecom sent her a cheque for £126,000.

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British Telecom paid to Camden Council for £32,000 for road repairs by changing the payee's name to her own; made Camden pay for £30,000 worth of renovations to her house by paying the builder with a council cheque; and falsely obtained mortgages on two properties to a value of £254,000 from Lloyds Bank and IMF Financial Services.

However, of the total of £893,000 worth of credit she secured, only £32,000 so far remains unrecovered.

Riley, an administrative assistant with Camden Council's information technology department, received a three-year prison sentence. She committed the offences while serving a suspended 12-month prison sentence for theft and false accounting.

Mr Andrew Coleman, for the prosecution, said that David Longmore, aged 26, who was living with Riley, had received an 18-month suspended sentence four weeks ago for mortgage frauds.

Riley was caught when one of the altered cheques was refused by two banks.

She was arrested at her home in Nelson Mandela Close, Tottenham, north London.

Riley's defence counsel Michael Haynes said his client encountered prejudice at work. For an "intelligent and articulate" person, she was under-employed at the council, "completely wasted in her job". He also said that she had a chip on her shoulder.

Judge James Hainan told Riley: "You're an intelligent young lady and you knew exactly what you were doing. It seems you were motivated by resentment, possibly, and certainly by greed."

Riley admitted four charges of deception, one of theft, one of obtaining property by deception and false accounting between November, 1988, and July last year. Six other charges were left on file not to be proceeded with.

Sadness and stench as residents return

By Ronald Faux

Mrs Lynn Lawrence, with tears in her eyes, returned yesterday to what remained of her home, devastated by the floods that poured through the sea wall at Towyn, Clwyd.

"It is heart-breaking, sad. Everything is wrecked," she said. Walls were stained by the retreating flood water, carpets and bedding lay in a tangled, water-logged heap and permeating everything was the stench of damp and filth.

Other flood victims returning to inspect their homes were met by equally devastating sights.

The area had first been checked by gas, electricity and water board engineers.

There was no immediate prospect of householders from the most severely affected areas returning permanently to their homes.

Some less severely affected decided to move back and begin the daunting job of making their homes habitable again.

The flood struck so suddenly few families had any chance to escape with more than the clothes they were

wearing. Mr Derrick Overthrow, aged 61, feared his nursery business, built up over 38 years had been wiped out. He put his losses at £250,000.

"I have had a good dry this morning and I don't think I have cried for 40 years."

Mr Gary Pickup, aged 31, and his wife Jackie, aged 28, opened the door of their bungalow in Kimmel Bay and were met by an appalling stench. "The place is absolutely wiped out," he said.

Meanwhile repair work on the seawall at Towyn continued yesterday against a forecast for the weekend of yet more gales.

The Prince of Wales has made a donation to a fund set up to help the flood-hit north Wales coast after his flying visit to the area on Thursday. The fund, set up by Colwyn Borough Council, has topped £100,000.

The council said: "The Prince was particularly concerned about the number of families who did not have insurance to cover their losses."



Late hitch for adventurers . . . while flight hits first-day snag

By Beth Gledhill

An international expedition across Antarctica with a British navigator could lose its ice against time and face spending the bitter polar winter at an isolated Russian base.

The six-man team and its logs are scheduled to arrive today at the Mirny base at the Queen Mary coast, where an international team of prior and television journalists is waiting its arrival.

The journalists, too, face a possible winter at the base if the team fails to arrive.

Mr Geoff Somers, a carpenter from Keswick, Cumbria, has so far successfully navigated the first-ever dog-led crossing of the polar cap.

The team is a frustrating 13 miles from its destination, but as not been able to move for no days.

It is these last few miles that have become treacherous as howling 50 to 60mph winds, blizzards and invisible 150ft deep crevasses brought the team to a standstill.

The men survived a crisis yesterday morning after Mr Keizo Funatsu, the Japanese team member and dog handler, who was lost in the blizzard with the dogs for 14 hours without a tent, was found in the early hours by a Russian truck sent from the base to rescue him.

Yesterday, the team was sitting out the snowstorms. The weather is so bad that even the Russian truck, which is fitted with radar equipment, stayed put.

The organizer, Mrs Cathy de Moll, executive director of International Polar Expeditions, said: "There is concern that they will have trouble finishing on time. But we are hoping they will get there."

Live broadcasts around the world are scheduled for 11.30am today, when the team is due to arrive.

However, even if the team arrives at the base on time, the ice-breaker meant to ship them out on the first leg of their journey home may not be able to reach them.

The ice pack which freezes around the continent each winter has closed in earlier than usual and a second, stronger ice-breaker is up to 20 days away and by the time it arrives may not be able to get through.

Organizers are now considering using a seven-seater Soviet plane to fly the journalists and the adventurers out.

Another alternative is for the men, dogs and journalists to risk taking a sled across the ice pack to the expedition's research ship, waiting on the other side.

By Peter Davenport

When Mr Brian Edwards guided his Tiger Moth biplane down the runway of the RAF base at Binbrook in Lincolnshire yesterday it was to be the start of a marathon journey to Australia in memory of the father he never knew, a wartime bomber pilot lost in action on a mission from the same airfield.

The first leg of the 15,000-mile flight, however, ended rather sooner than planned.

After less than two hours the yellow aircraft, named Matilda, lost its propeller over the Kent countryside and Mr Edwards, a physiotherapist aged 49, crash-landed in a field two miles from the Headcorn Airfield, near Ashford.

Apart from a dent in his pride, he was unharmed and, in true air force wartime spirit,



Mr Edwards: Asked way to the nearest public house.

Edwards would be rescued: "I don't need any help. I only need directions to the nearest pub."

After being interviewed by police Mr Edwards made a detailed inspection of his aircraft, which had a damaged wing and a broken crankshaft,

and said he hoped he could continue his adventure.

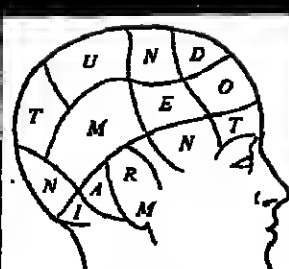
He began the journey to his home in Perth, Western Australia, from Binbrook in honour of his father, Pilot Officer Clifford Edwards of the Royal Australian Air Force, who was reported missing on a Lancaster bomber raid from the base almost 50 years ago.

He had been on a mission over Cologne with the RAAF Squadron 460 when his plane disappeared. The fate of the aircraft and its crew remains unknown.

Pilot Officer Edwards had been born in England but emigrated to Australia as a child. His son inherited his love of flying.

On his trip, Mr Edwards planned to raise £100,000 for charity. Engineers are now assessing whether the plane can be repaired.

NEXT WEEK



TOURNAMENT OF THE MIND

Do you know the difference between pannage and pansophy? If you do, or know where to find the answer, then you should pencil a reminder in your diary for next Tuesday. That is the first day of The Times Tournament of the Mind, played over 20 rounds with questions devised and marked by Mensa.

Queues will form outside libraries, homework will stay undone and puzzle aficionados will stay home, wrestling with logic, numeracy, and general knowledge. This third annual trial of intellect has become almost an obsession for some, and the rewards are more than the satisfaction of meeting a challenge. The winner receives £5,000. The winning school team receives a computer.

This year, for the first time, every entrant will receive a special certificate. Those who score above a certain level of points will receive a personalized bronze, silver or gold certificate. The top 100 entrants take part in the final five rounds, beginning on April 23.

To make the search for the winner even more exciting, the top 10 individual scorers from the finals will be invited to London to take part in a play-off final against the clock.

Last year's winner, Andrew Johnston, will be defending his title and offers this tip for fellow contestants: "The key is defining precisely what the problem is."

As a taster, try this: What is the species name of the largest monitor lizard? The answer, if you need it, is on page 14.

Duchess is sued by Barclays

Barclays Bank has launched a High Court legal action against Margaret, Duchess of Argyll, over a £26,000 debt.

It says the Duchess, aged 77, whose second marriage to the 11th Duke of Argyll ended in divorce in 1963, is overdrawn on her current account at its Piccadilly branch.

In a writ issued in the Queen's Bench Division, the bank says that on November 20 last year the Duchess, of Cliveden Place, Belgravia, west London, was overdrawn by £24,715.34.

This figure included money lent to her and interest on it. The bank says it has made a formal demand for repayment but has received nothing.

Since then interest of £1,231.19 has been added to the debt, bringing it to £25,946.53 at the beginning of this month.

The writ says that sum will continue to grow by £12.79 a day, with interest at 3 per cent above the bank's base rate, until judgement of its claim or payment.

PORTFOLIO

There were no valid claims in yesterday's Portfolio Platinum competition, so the prize money on Monday will be doubled up to £4,000.

LIQUIDATION AUCTION CLEARANCE OF ALL PIECES

PERSIAN & EASTERN CARPETS

DISPOSAL FOR IMMEDIATE CASH

USED IN SECURING LOAN, NOW IN DEFAULT, AND ORDERED TO BE LIQUIDATED.

INVENTORY INCLUDES: AFGHAN, SHIRAZ, GASHGAI, BELOUCH, SIRHAN, JAIPUR, BOKHARA, YALAME, KAZAK, ISPAHAN, NAIN, KASHEMIRI, KASHAN, TASPANAR, DOSHEMALITI, HERKEE, ISLAMABAD, YAMOUT, SENNEH, BIDJAR, SAROUK, USBAK.

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Owen in attack on Gorbachov

Dr David Owen, leader of the SDP and a former Foreign Secretary, launched an astonishing attack on Mr Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, last night and accused Mr Thatcher of falling for KGB propaganda which attempts to portray him as a democrat.

In a speech in Cardiff which puts him out of step with almost every senior politician in Britain and western Europe, Dr Owen claimed that Mr Gorbachov's good press was due to the fact that "the KGB is more successful in mounting Western opinion than Soviet opinion".

Dr Owen said: "Mr Gorbachov is not a democrat and we should stop pretending that he is. No one gets to the top of the greasy pole in the Soviet Union only to hand over power to the people. He is using the Communist Party to assume the powers of a dictator greater than some past Czars."

The SDP leader said that there was no prospect of a market economy in the Soviet Union and that it was only economic considerations which had led to the relaxation of the Soviet grip on the Warsaw Pact countries.

Blood theft sentence

A motorist who agreed to give blood at a police station after a breath test proved positive was handed both blood samples in mistake by the police who should have kept one for analysis, Chichester Crown Court was told yesterday.

When Peter Hamsher, aged 27, of Byron Close, Bognor Regis, left the police station he poured both samples away. Hamsher pleaded guilty to committing an act likely to pervert the course of justice and the theft of a blood specimen. He was given a three-month jail sentence suspended for a year.

Man ran gun factory

A former UDR soldier was convicted at Belfast Crown Court yesterday of running a covert arms factory at his engineering works. Samuel McCoubrey, aged 47, a self-taught engineer, of Dunmore Road, Spe, Ballynahinch, Co Down, will be sentenced next Friday after he was convicted of seven charges relating to the production of sten guns and component parts for Uzi-type sub-machine guns. Two other men will be sentenced with him.

Tougher GCSE soon

Changes will make the GCSE tougher over the next four years, Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, told the annual meeting of the Governing Bodies Association of the independent schools yesterday (Our Education Editor writes). The examination had been widely accepted, but some worries remained, he said. Syllabuses from 1994 would require higher standards: "It will be very demanding." *Classics report, page 5*

'Three Graces' delay

A government decision on whether to permit the export of Canova's statue "The Three Graces" has been put off for a further three weeks. Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said in a Commons written reply that he had deferred until April 4 the decision on the application for a licence to export the statue to the Getty Museum in California. An earlier time limit was due to expire at midnight on March 12.

Highlighting hedges

Scottish farmers are to be encouraged to improve the management of their hedgerows by taking part in a competition to discover the best examples across the country (Kerry Gill writes). The contest, promoted by the Farming, Forestry and Wildlife Advisory Group, aims to highlight the need to encourage good hedgerow management to enhance the attraction of the countryside. Examples of good hedgerows are considered few and far between.

Legal action threat over Cairo tragedy

By Libby Jukes

Survivors of Thursday night's fire at the Heliopolis Sheraton in Cairo have threatened legal action against the hotel and criticised the Egyptian emergency services for their slow response to the tragedy in which at least 16 people died.

Three British fashion journalists, a nurse and an elderly American couple, who arrived at Gatwick airport yesterday, all talked of inadequate fire precautions at the luxury hotel.

As they headed for home, the husband of Mrs Janet Parker, editor and publisher of *Cosmetics International* magazine, flew to the Egyptian capital. Mrs Parker, aged 42, of Northwood in Middlesex, is among three women still missing from a party of 23 British journalists.

Miss Marion Hume, aged 27, who writes for the *Sunday Times*, said: "The Sheraton ought to be called to account. You assume that an international hotel would conform to certain international standards. This one was only up to the very low local Egyptian

ones. The lack of alarms and sprinklers definitely cost lives."

Although the fire is thought to have started in a bread oven in the kitchen adjoining a tent serving as the hotel coffee shop, it has been rumoured to be the work of Muslim fundamentalists.

Another British journalist, Miss Susan Irvine, aged 28, of *Women's Journal* magazine, said that the fire destroyed the control panel which should have set off the alarm.

"I saw a huge flash as the tent went up. There were people just standing around and watching. It was a shambles—there were no exit lights and no fire alarms."

William and Beatha Hayton, of Chicago, described how they stepped on several bodies as they struggled down six flights of stairs with wet towels round their heads.

"There was no proper escape route from the hotel," Mr Hayton said. "The fire broke out at 11.30 and the fire-fighting did not look good."

Cost-sharing hope for the Channel Tunnel

By Michael Dynes, Transport Correspondent

The financial obstacles standing in the way of building the Channel Tunnel rail link could be overcome by sharing the costs of construction, and the additional capacity, between domestic and international rail services, it was claimed yesterday.

Public investment in the new link, although prohibited under section 48 of the 1987 Channel Tunnel Act, could receive government approval on the ground that it would also provide the additional capacity needed to relieve congestion on the busy commuter lines in Kent, informed sources say.

Although all capital investment by British Rail must satisfy the Treasury's stringent "eight per cent return" requirement, Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Transport, has already conceded in

principle that this rule might be relaxed "on social and economic grounds".

In a letter to Sir Robert Reid in December, Mr Parkinson said that where "investment cannot meet the eight per cent test, I shall want a cost-benefit evaluation to be carried out... to enable me to decide whether capital grants would be justified on wider social and economic grounds".

The "cost benefit" concession could enable Mr Parkinson to grant approval for some public investment in a new rail link in Kent, which could be shared by commuter services and the planned Channel Tunnel inter-capital services between London, Paris and Brussels.

Approval for such investment would probably still violate the legal prohibition against subsidising international passenger services, and

would have to be sanctioned by a clause in the proposed Channel Tunnel Rail Bill, granting an exception where investment also leads to improvements in domestic services, informed sources say.

However, in order to guarantee safe passage for the proposed legislation, the Government would also have to abandon its "hands off" approach towards the project, and take on the responsibility of promoting a hybrid Bill in place of the planned private Bill.

The change of tactic would enable the Government to marshal party discipline to "neutralise" the anticipated 1,000 objections against the private Bill, due to be submitted in Parliament in November, which many seasoned observers believe will obstruct its passage through Parliament.

A hybrid Bill, which, unlike a

private Bill, can be submitted to Parliament at any time in the legislative timetable, would provide greater flexibility. However, it would be tantamount to an admission that the Government's cherished objective of encouraging the private sector to take the lead in new transport infrastructure projects is "fraught with difficulties".

The legislative and financial obstacles confronting the troubled Channel Tunnel rail link are now so "overwhelming" that they can only be resolved with a substantial infusion of public funds, and a decision by Government to take the initiative in the legislative process, the source added.

Although final costings for the link, especially for the revised overland route from Swanley into central London, will not be available until April. Officially, Trafalgar

House acknowledges "there are some difficulties" financing the £3.5 billion route, together with the £1.1 billion needed to upgrade the existing route. But it remains adamant they can be overcome, giving the company "something like an 18 per cent return on our investment".

● Nearly 44 million passengers a year are expected to travel through the Channel Tunnel by 2003, ten years after its opening. Mr Michael Portillo, Minister for Public Transport, forecast yesterday in a Commons written reply.

However, an attempt to lift the bar on the Government giving cash aid for British Rail's high speed link through Kent to the tunnel was blocked in the Commons. The Channel Tunnel Act (Amendment) Bill, launched by Mr Robert Adley, MP for Christchurch, failed to gain its second reading.

Inquiry is launched to track down NI millions

By Sheila Gann, Political Reporter

An inquiry has been launched to identify employers suspected of withholding from the Government hundreds of millions of pounds in National Insurance contributions.

The National Audit Office, the independent public spending watchdog, said yesterday that a lack of skilled staff to conduct checks and evasion by some employers suggested "large-scale undercollection of contributions". It also disclosed that it will carry out its own investigation, although it may be hampered by a lack of powers to inspect the records kept by employers and the self-employed.

Mr Dennis Skinner, Labour MP for Bolsover, has estimated that up to £1 million a day in NI contributions are being lost because of a lack of proper controls on employers.

Yesterday, in a report, Mr John Bourn, Comptroller and Auditor General at the NAO, said: "Significant doubts now exist about the effectiveness of these controls to ensure contributions received are materially complete and accurately calculated."

His findings led him to qualify last year's National Insurance Fund accounts.

Employers are required to work out contributions for staff and pay these to the Inland Revenue or the Department of Social Security. They are also left to calculate statutory sick pay and maternity pay.

The NAO found that the

department had a backlog of suspicious returns to be investigated which:

- had incorrect or incomplete stated earnings; or
- did not match the department's records; or
- did not identify the contributor adequately.

Some 67,000 visits were made in 1988/89, far below the target of 200,000.

Two internal department reports in 1987 and 1989 found that the National Insurance inspectorate had inadequate resources, a fragmented and diffuse management and a lack of meaningful performance targets.

Mr Bourn said: "Additionally there were inadequacies in the training of inspectors and a deep sense of frustration. The reports also suggested that, because of the lack of skilled resources to deal effectively with non-compliance and because of deliberate evasion by some employers, there was a large-scale undercollection of contributions."

His report said that errors in paying unemployment benefits led to £55 million in underpayments last year and £38 million in overpayments.

Mr Michael Meacher, the Labour social security spokesman, described the NAO's report as an indictment of the Government's record as a steward of public funds.

The Commons public accounts committee is to take evidence from Whitehall officials on the NAO report.

Play becomes a double family affair



Chekhov check: Cyril Cusack, the veteran actor, with his daughters (from left), Niamh, Siobhán and Sorcha; and, below, Vanessa and Lynn Redgrave.



Chekhov's *Three Sisters* is becoming more than a literary family affair. Two of the great stage families are taking nepotism to the boards with the play (Simon Tait writes).

Cyril Cusack is to star in it in Dublin with his daughters, Siobhán, Niamh, and Sorcha, it was announced yesterday.

On Monday the Redgrave family is also to stake its claim to the Russian classic. Vanessa Redgrave, her sister Lynn and Vanessa's daughter, Joely Richardson, will announce that they will be in a West End production in November.

Their version of the Russian drama is to have an even more poignant aspect. It is the first time the sisters have appeared together professionally, and will be directed by Robert Sturges, the Russian director of *Rustavi Theatre* in Tbilisi, Georgia.

BAe plants vote for return to work

By Tim Jones, Employment Affairs Correspondent

The long and damaging strike in support of a 37-hour week which has crippled the British Aerospace plant at Chester for 18 weeks, causing a severe setback to the Airbus programme, ended yesterday when workers voted by three to two to return to work on Monday.

There will also be a return to work at the company's Preston plant where a recommendation to accept a deal was accepted during a stormy meeting at which union cards were torn up and demands made for the resignation of local union leaders.

Both plants will immediately introduce a one-hour cut in the present 39-hour week with a further hour reduction next year. The company said yesterday that the agreement meant the reduced working week would be self-financing and involve changes in working practices.

In spite of the settlement at Chester, which makes wings for Airbus, BAe may still face a claim from the other partners in Airbus Industrie for £70 million as

compensation to the consortium for losses.

Because of the dispute, which came at a time when Airbus was challenging Boeing to become market leader, it will be at least a year before production rates return to normal at the Airbus final assembly plant in Toulouse.

Production which had been running at about 11 aircraft a month has been cut to one. Monday's return to work is likely to involve the company in a huge overtime payments bill as it gears up to recover lost ground.

The settlement, hailed as a breakthrough by union leaders in their campaign to extend the 37-hour working week throughout the British engineering industry.

● Wildcat strikers who have caused the loss of nearly £270 million worth of production at Ford yesterday refused to work (Kevin Eason writes).

The 550 craftmen unwilling to take the pay deal accepted by the rest of the

company's 32,000 workforce — snubbed their own national union officials who asked them to go back to allow a full return to the assembly lines by 11,000 workers, laid off for seven weeks as a result of the dispute.

Ford will now go ahead with calling back 8,000 production workers at the Halewood plant on Merseyside in a move to break the craftsmen's strike.

Although a small group of workers, the craftsmen carry out vital maintenance and repair tasks which allow assembly lines to run smoothly.

The 8,000 Halewood men sent home because maintenance could not be carried out will now be asked to allow managers to carry out the jobs of the craftsmen when they are called back to work from Monday.

Mass meetings tomorrow will decide whether to answer the company's call to cross picket lines, set up by the Amalgamated Engineering Union craftsmen, so that the huge Halewood plant can start operating again.

EC air crew proposals

BA says costs will soar if hours cut

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

British Airways, which employs 2,732 pilots, estimates that it would have to take on an additional 600 flight deck crew at a cost of £53 million if new European regulations limiting air crews' flying time are introduced.

The airline would also find itself competing for staff with every other European airline at a time when the industry is suffering from a desperate shortage of trained crews.

The rules would mean, for example, that the Heathrow to Chicago route would be too far for a single crew. Charter airlines and small airlines such as Virgin Atlantic which mainly operate long-haul services would be particularly badly hit.

Air Europe calculates that the proposals would force it to increase its pilots by 55 per cent and that its European subsidiary, Air Europa, would have to find 70 per cent more flight deck crew.

The European Commission is, however, determined to press ahead with the proposals which are part of a move to harmonize standards throughout the Community.

Mr Karl-Heinz Neumeister, Secretary General of the Association of European Airlines which represents the scheduled carriers, said in Brussels yesterday: "This has come a terrible shock to us. It is an astonishing proposal which is based on ignorance and which we can neither understand nor tolerate."

He claimed that airlines had not been consulted about the proposals.

"It is going to mean that my members have to find between 25 and 50 per cent more pilots at a time when we have a great shortage anyway."

"I have already written to the Commission explaining that this is exactly counter to the drive they are making towards reducing air fares within Europe by increasing competition. They are asking for liberalization so that fares can be brought down and

introducing measures which can only put them up."

The pilots' union Balpa, admitted that their "eyebrows were raised" when they saw the proposals in detail.

Mr Freddie Yetman, Balpa's technical secretary, said: "We were asked for our comments and in principle are very much in favour of reduced hours. We have been constantly plagued by pilots suffering from exhaustion and fatigue and have complained in the past that the Civil Aviation Authority has given in to commercial pressure too much in drawing up its own rules."

"Nonetheless I must admit that we raised our eyebrows when we saw the proposals in detail because they will obviously be restricting in terms of the airlines' activities."

The proposals are contained in a draft regulation submitted by Mr Karl Van Miert, Transport Commissioner in Brussels. If passed by the Council of Ministers, it would immediately become European law and would not have to be ratified by national parliaments.

The ruling, he says, should cover all commercial air services, including charter flights which now account for half the passengers carried in the community.

Although the plans only relate to pilots, the commission says that it will be submitting "as quickly as possible" regulations on cabin staff aimed at reducing their duty times too.

In December the CAA introduced a set of regulations governing pilots' flying hours to come into force in May which crews claimed were too lenient and airlines too tough.

Under the new British regulations pilots were limited to no more than 55 hours in any one week, 95 in any two-week period and 900 in a year.

The EC proposals limit the duty to eight hours a day, 200 hours a quarter or 720 hours a year.

March 2 1990

PARLIAMENT

Labour MPs angered by Tory blocking tactics

Labour MPs backing a Bill to provide compensation for ex-Servicemen suffering from cancer resulting from nuclear tests angrily attacked the Government and some Conservative backbenchers for adopting tactics to prevent the Bill being debated.

They said that the men or their widows would not understand the "parliamentary games" being played.

Appeals to the Chair and the moving of a procedural motion to end a debate so that the compensation Bill could be considered all failed.

The Bill to require developers to get planning permission before demolishing houses took all the time allowed for debating private Members' measures, but also failed to get through after Mr Michael Spicer, Minister of State for the Environment, had made clear that the Government opposed it.

Its sponsor, Mr John Wilkinson (Ruislip, Northwood, C) had indicated his willingness to curtail debate on his Bill so that time would be available for the Radiation Exposed Crown Employees (Benefits) Bill. But other Conservative MPs kept the debate going.

During Mr Spicer's speech, Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) called for an immediate vote on the planning Bill. He alleged that the minister was "stretching the time out" and that it seemed that the whole had been brought to other Tory MPs "to talk even more". This was despite the fact that Mr

Wilkinson had suggested that the compensation Bill should have a reasonable time for discussion.

Mr Spicer denied that he had "strayed off course".

Mr Robert Clay (Sunderland North, Lab), sponsor of the compensation Bill, said that many people would not understand these parliamentary games.

The ex-Servicemen and their families had enormous hopes of his Bill. They would be appalled if the House did not pass it and even more appalled if it was not even discussed.

It was about people dying or who feared dying, who could not wait two years or 10 years to have their point of view heard.

Mr Wilkinson said that he was prepared to forgo any right to wind up the debate on his Bill, and, to Labour cheers, sought to close the debate.

The Deputy Speaker (Sir Paul Dean) said that he was not prepared to accept the closure motion (loud Labour protests).

Mr Roland Boyes, for the Opposition, said that Conservative MPs were trying to talk the Bill out. Many people had been affected by nuclear tests. "We are simply trying to give them adequate compensation."

After further protests, the closure was carried by 81 votes to three, but fewer than the 100 MPs required had voted in favour, the motion fell and the debate continued until time ran out.



Mr Wilkinson: Unprincipled practices forced old people out.

When Mr Hugo Summerson (Walthamstow, C) started to speak, Mr Skinner said that all members of Lloyds ought to declare an interest before speaking because the Bill being blocked involved compensation so it would not be in the interest of Lloyds that it should be passed.

Moving the second reading of his Bill, Mr Wilkinson said that it would make it obligatory to apply for planning permission before demolishing a dwelling house.

People could not comprehend why planning permission was required before a householder could initiate relatively minor changes, whereas to turn that home by demolition into waste ground was "unrestrainedly permissible".

Unprincipled practices had been used to force out elderly people and to break up happy communities in inner city streets of basically sound houses to make space for high-rise flats and other blots on residential urban landscapes which deserved to be cherished, not bulldozed.

The purpose of the Bill accorded with the Government's much-valued desire to protect the environment, and the Government's reaction to it would be seen by the public as a touchstone of its environmental intentions.

Mr Jeremy Hanley (Richmond and Barnes, C) said that there was no logic in allowing an individual to make up to 10 per cent alteration to his property without the need for planning consent, or 100 per cent alteration by knocking it down.

Why was consent needed for between 10 per cent and 99 per cent, but not when it amounted to total alteration by demolition?

Mr Ian Stewart (North Hertfordshire, C) feared that the Bill would slow down an already arduous planning process. It would create, if not a universal conservation area in urban

British biologists make crop spray breakthrough

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THE POLL TAX DEBATE

Poll tax clash of highest and lowest side by side

By Ray Clancy

The poll tax debate was pulled sharply into focus yesterday when Wandsworth in south London, Mrs Margaret Thatcher's favourite local authority, announced England's lowest charge while councillors in neighbouring Lambeth prepared to set the highest.

Conservative councillors in Wandsworth beamed with delight, obviously proud of setting a poll tax of £148, which is £23 below the government estimate of £171 and £48 below the next lowest rate set by Westminster.

But they were immediately

criticized by Miss Fiona

Macgarratt, the leader of the

Labour opposition group on

the council, and Miss Joan

Twelves, the leader of Labour-

controlled Lambeth council,

which is struggling to set its

poll tax at under £700.

"The Tories in Wandsworth

are mortgaging the future.

This is a phoney poll tax that

they are using as an election

bride which has been made

possible by favourable grants from the Government. Next year they are facing the choice of doubling the poll tax or halving services," Miss Macgarratt said. She said the Tories had a secret plan to bridge the future spending gap through huge cuts in services which will not be disclosed until after the May elections.

Sir Paul Beresford, leader of Wandsworth, dismissed the claims. "If there are any secret plans I certainly have not seen them. We have produced a poll tax of £148 through careful and efficient savings and we hope to continue doing that in the future. Next year the poll tax might be even lower."

Lambeth councillors are locked in meetings for the next few days trying to set the poll tax. Miss Twelves said the borough needed to spend £300 million just to keep services at the same level but the Government standard spending assessment for Lambeth is £240 million. "Wandsworth is

using £32 million in reserves and favourable government grants to keep the poll tax down. It is election bribery. In Lambeth we don't have any reserves to soften the blow if what is an unfair tax that will hit the pockets of most people in Lambeth."

"I won't defend the poll tax but I will defend what we need to spend on services. The government estimate of what we need to spend is totally unrealistic. The gap of £60 million is equivalent to £360 a head on the poll tax," Miss Twelves said.

The Lambeth councillors are frantically re-examining every department's budget estimates in an attempt to find areas where savings can be made. Libraries, nurseries, homes for the elderly, youth clubs and adult education centres are prime candidates for cuts.

There can be little doubt that Lambeth is heading for a collision course with the Government and must be a prime

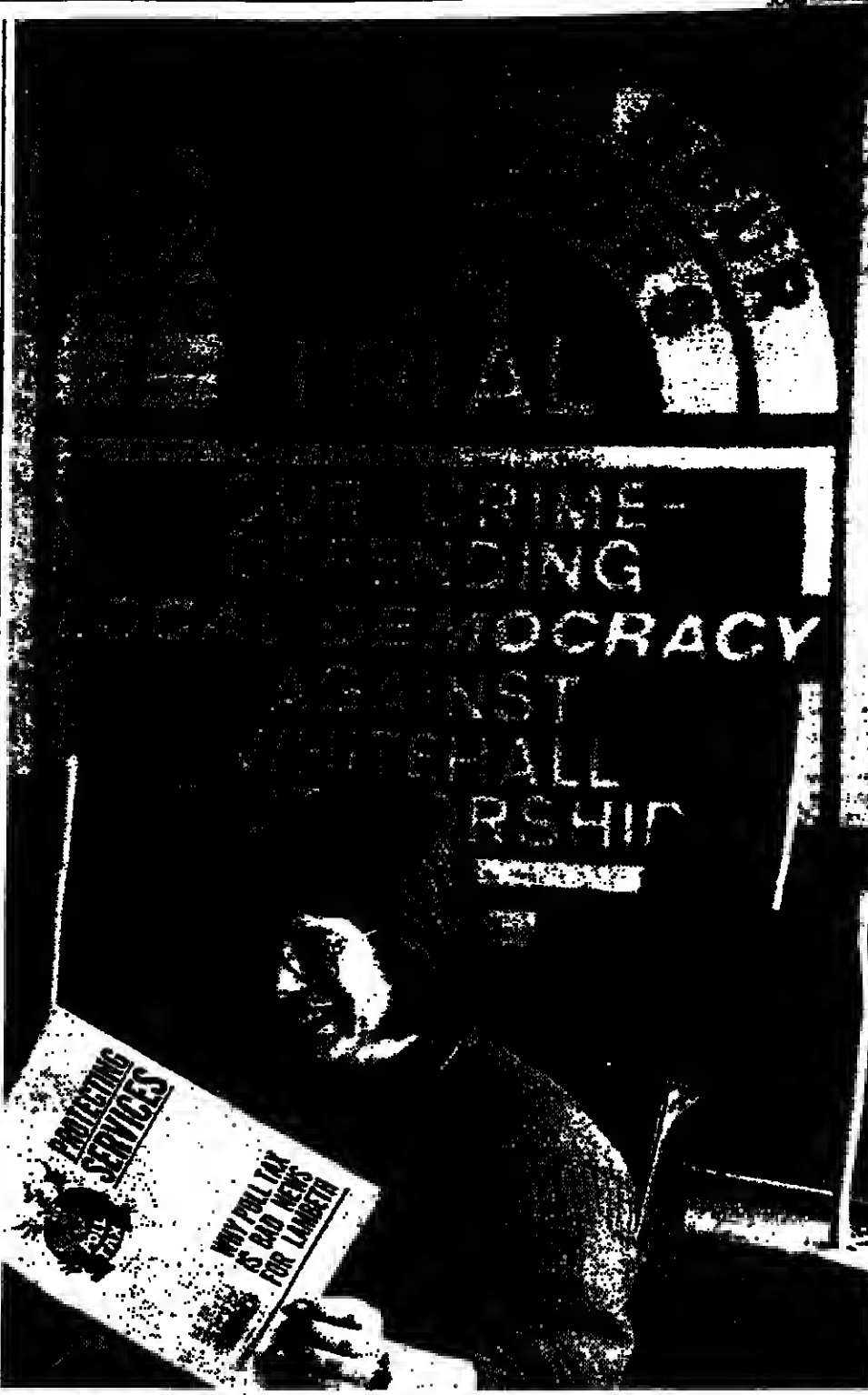
target for capping. Miss Twelves said that would have a disastrous effect on the borough perhaps lead to bankruptcy and would mean cuts in services of £60 million.

If Lambeth sets its charge close to £700 its poll tax payers entitled to the maximum rebate of 80 per cent will be sent bills of about £148, the same as the full tax in next-door Wandsworth.

The contrast can be seen at its plainest in Hazelbourne Road, where residents on one side will pay £148 to Wandsworth council and on the other side they will pay up to £700 to Lambeth council.

It is in this residential road just off Clapham Common in south-west London that the politicians have the most difficulty explaining the anomalies of the poll tax system.

A family of three adults living on the Wandsworth side faces a poll tax bill of £444 but for the same family on the Lambeth side it could be £2,100.



Miss Joan Twelves, leader of Lambeth, studying some council literature on the poll tax yesterday in the council chamber under a poster that went up during Mr Ken Livingstone's campaign against rate capping during his term as leader of the Greater London Council.

Immigrants face huge payments in cotton mill town

By Ronald Faux

The community charge will hit Blackburn hard. The Lancashire mill town is one of the districts heading the list of those whose residents' domestic payments will rise most steeply under the new tax.

Final figures have yet to be announced by Lancashire County Council but Mr James Kennedy, director of finance for Blackburn, expects that every adult will face a demand for £365, an increase of more than 80 per cent on the previous rates burdened if divided between all adults.

Labour-controlled Blackburn Borough Council says that the rises imposed by the community charge will be devastating and a two-fold calamity.

It says that they will squeeze resources to the town, making even harder the task of replacing the inadequate Victorian houses that were the reason for Blackburn's low level of rates, and that they will put an impossible burden on Asian families occupying them.

In Balasava Street and Inkerman Street, the impact of the new system is only now being understood. The steep, stone terraces built by the cotton mill owners for their workers were cheap homes for waves of immigrants who came to work in the cotton industry and who now represent 16 per cent of the population. The industry died but the immigrants remained.

Mr Gulam Sheth came from Bombay 20 years ago to work in a Blackburn mill. When

that closed he started a plumbing and hardware business. He lives above the shop with his wife and nine children. Three of his children are over 18, so his "rates" bill alone would be more than £1,800, plus whatever the business charge adds.

Mr Sheth added: "What some families will be asked to pay is beyond belief. These small houses are often shared. Some may have eight or nine eligible people in them."

Mr Kennedy said that there were complex reasons for the rise. The Government's notion of inflation was 4.8 per cent against a reality of 6.5 to 7 per cent. The net result of the change appeared to be a cut in grant to Blackburn of £9 million, or 11 per cent.

There were extra costs imposed on the council of £340,000 in community charge benefits, an obligation to pay off debts, never and above the normal provision, of £238,000 and changes in housing clearance subsidy that would cost £157,000.

"In addition, there is the cost of running the community charge itself, which everyone agrees is very expensive," he said.

Mr Peter Greenwood, leader of the council, said the net charge of £365 took into account all that the town was likely to receive from grants and the contribution from the so-called safety net.

"The poll tax and the old rating system are not comparable. The Government support to Blackburn will be cut substantially," he said.

Thatcher will face hardest task on figures

By David Walker

According to the list of community charge payments due in the constituencies of Cabinet ministers, it is the Prime Minister who will have the hardest task explaining the difference between what the Government predicted councils needed to levy in tax and what they are proposing to raise.

The local authority for Mrs Thatcher's constituency of Finchley Central, the London Borough of Barnet, is renowned as one of the most parsimonious of the Conservative-controlled outer boroughs. However its charge of £390 per adult is 54 per cent above the figure given the borough by the Department of the Environment.

Barnet's Conservatives blame the requirement on the outer boroughs to contribute to the safety net arrangements for most of the difference. They can also point out that they are planning to spend nearly 2 per cent per head less than Whitehall recommends as the minimum for schools, social services and street cleaning.

Some of Mrs Thatcher's colleagues ought to have an easier time explaining their local council's levies. If Mr Douglas Hurd, Foreign Secretary, had not been confronted with the resignation of the party whip by Conservative councillors on West Oxfordshire District he might have been able to blame a 63 per cent difference between poll tax and government recommendation on Oxfordshire County Council, where no party has overall control.

Oxfordshire County Council is planning to spend 15 per cent more per head than the Department of the Environment says it needs to provide on schools and social services.

However, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the deputy Prime Minister, faces a problem of prime ministerial proportions.

As MP for the solidly Conservative district of Taunbridge in solidly Conservative Surrey, Sir Geoffrey has to explain a 54 per cent difference between council and government-approved figures.

Other ministers can put

Labour firmly in their sights.

Mr David Waddington, Home Secretary, represents Ribblesdale, which is a Conservative district. Lancashire, the county council, accounts for the bulk of spending and it is Labour-controlled. On the Government's calculations, it is proposing to spend over 11 per cent more per head than it needs to.

WHAT CABINET WILL PAY

	Poll tax	Govt	Diff %
Thatcher	390	254	54
Howe	390	254	54
Hurd	412	253	63
Major	298	231	29
Waddington	355	248	43
Walker	319	246	30
King	323	254	27
Ridley	364	268	36
Baker	395	341	16
Clarke	304	281	40
MacGregor	312	247	26
Parkinson	413	371	11
Wakeham	339	263	20
Newson	343	266	23
Patten	335	254	32
Brooke	195	269	-25
Gummer	389	287	38
Lamont	375	253	48
Howard	257	223	33
Rifkind	437	392	11

†Last year's figure. Government figures are recommendations.

Rare jug found by TV show is star of ceramics auction

By John Shaw

A pottery owl called Ozzie, star discovery of *Antiques Roadshow* on BBC1 tomorrow, will be offered at auction at Phillips in London next week with an estimate of £20,000 to £25,000.

Every collector's dream came true for a couple who queued with other hopefuls to have their family treasures examined by *Roadshow* experts visiting The Derrig Centre, Northampton.

The owl, a rare Staffordshire Slipware jug and cover dating from the early 18th century, had stood by the fireplace and sometimes doubled as a flower pot.

The body of the bird was modelled in red clay and decorated with a dip of marbled cream and shades of brown. The head is detachable and is a drinking cup. The eyes are edged with white dots.

Few examples of these owl jugs survive. It is thought that the design originated in Germany and was the inspiration of potters such as the family of Thomas Toft at the end of the 17th century.

The programme was re-

corded some time ago and the couple were too overcome to think about selling their new treasure at the time. But now they have decided to put it into

an auction and it will be the star piece in a ceramics sale at Phillips on Wednesday.

Archibald Thorburn (1860-1935) stole the show at Christie's sale of bird drawings, watercolours and pictures, which made £492,888 (10 per cent unsold). Work by the artist, who specialized in finely detailed studies, particularly of game birds, took the top ten lots.

"The close of the season", showing grouse on a moor and signed and dated 1918, equalled the artist's record at £41,800 (estimate £20,000 to £30,000), and a pencil and watercolour drawing of a woodcock, signed and dated 1895, made £20,900 (£10,000 to £15,000). "Pheasant", signed and dated 1922, fetched £18,700 (£10,000 to £15,000).

Sotheby's had a good middle-range English furniture sale totalling £403,238 (15 per cent unsold). The top lot, a George II walnut tallboy, circa 1730, went to a private buyer for £10,780 (£4,000 to £6,000). A George III white-and-gilt shield-back armchair made £9,900 (£4,000 to £6,000).

Ozzie, a pottery owl valued at up to £25,000.

Worry for employers with live-in staff

By Tim Jones, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Thousands of people, from Army generals to vicars, are to be protected from the full effects of the poll tax, and employers claim that this will increase wage demands, further undermining the Government's anti-inflation strategy.

Others will be worse off, including, according to their federation, policemen living in section houses and married quarters whose rates have been paid by the constabularies.

Introduction of the tax in England and Wales will create financial difficulties for a range of employers providing "live-in" accommodation, including the Ministry of Defence, the Church of England, hotels, and public schools.

An analysis by Incomes Data Services says current estimates suggest that the tax will add between 0.5 per cent and 1 per cent to the retail price index in April. The Church of England will be particularly hit, with Church Commis-

sioners having to find another £8 million to meet the poll tax charges for 11,000 clergy living in parsonages.

The commissioners said that partly because of the added burden, they had suspended a £33 million project to improve poor-standard houses, although the Church is getting an extra £3 million from the Government for upkeep of churches and relief on office taxation.

Previously, because of charitable status, rates on parsonages were very low. A £1,400 pay increase to clergy from this April includes £600 to enable them to pay the tax for themselves and their wives.

The tax could also add tens of thousands of pounds to Britain's defence bill following a decision that any of the 150,000 servicemen living in barracks or married quarters will not have to pay more than £52 a year above the average for all service accommodation. They will

be reimbursed any sum above that figure, yet to be worked out.

Later this month, the union leaders of more than 30,000 farm workers in "tied" houses will demand a big pay increase for them to counteract the tax's effects.

According to the Independent Schools Information Service, teachers at boarding schools and other live-in staff will be taxed twice, because many occupy their own homes during holidays.

ISIS said: "Our representations to the Government have met only with the response that local authorities have discretionary powers. We believe it is inequitable for these staff who have to live in to be expected to pay the tax twice."

Incomes Data Services says that some hoteliers expect to pay the tax for "live-in" staff, and to extend an appropriate increase to other staff, adding to costs. There is concern that many, usually mobile, staff will not register.

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Promised Land refugees caught in political crossfire

Material has been removed from the following dispatch by the Israeli censor under new rules announced yesterday covering the immigration of Soviet Jews.

From Richard Owen
Gilo, Israel

"This is occupied land?" Professor Rafael Goldman's mouth dropped open. "I had no idea." He looked across from the modern Jewish settlement, built in blocks of golden Jerusalem stone, to the bare ridge opposite, once a Jordanian artillery position in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. In between, screened by blossoming almond trees, lies the Arab village of Beit Safafa, whose inhabitants have become increasingly militant during the *intifada*, now in its third year.

"It looks peaceful to me," Professor Goldman said. "The people are friendly. But then I've only been here two weeks. You must forgive me; until I arrived I didn't even know what the occupied territories were. I hadn't even heard about the Jewish Settlers' Movement."

As US-Israeli tensions rise over the immigration issue, Western diplomats are increasingly concerned at what they see as the "misleading impression" being given by the Israeli authorities. According to official figures, less than 1 per cent

of the great exodus of Soviet Jews which began arriving here at the beginning of the year has chosen to live in the occupied territories. Most go to Tel Aviv or Haifa in Israel proper. Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, has angrily accused "the enemies of Israel" of using the issue of occupied land to try to undermine immigration to Israel as such, a move he sees as a clear echo of attempts to prevent Jewish immigration in British-mandate Palestine.

But immigration officials acknowledge that on average 10 per cent of the new arrivals from the Soviet Union are settling in Jerusalem. Of these, most live in satellite Jewish suburbs such as Gilo, built "across the green line", in territory which has been annexed by Israel as part of Jerusalem — and is therefore not on the West Bank — but which is one the less regarded by most of the world as "occupied" under international law. On maps issued by the US State Department it is marked as "status to be determined". Diplomats fear that the gravitation of Soviet Jews towards these disputed suburbs will complicate the

peace process, with Jerusalem — by common consent the last problem which should be raised in negotiations — becoming an obstacle from the outset.

Yesterday tension between the United States and Israel over the peace process was heightened when Mr James Baker, the US Secretary of State, warned Israel that American patience had run out because "we've done pretty much all we can do". There are growing fears that American aid to Israel, now \$3 billion (£1.8 billion) a year, may be cut. Mr Shamir and the Likud Party have until Wednesday next week to accept a demand from their Labour coalition partners that Israel should agree to American proposals for peace talks with a Palestinian delegation which would include both Palestinian deportees and Arabs from East Jerusalem. Likud right-wing rebels refuse to have anything to do with any proposal which involves the status of Jerusalem, even indirectly.

Addressing the House appropriations committee on foreign operations, Mr Baker said bluntly that a US Government guarantee of \$400 million in loans to Israel to help absorb new immigrants would only be paid if Israel gave Washington firm assurances that the money would not be used "to create new

settlements or expand old settlements" over the green line. Mr Shamir, in a rare show of public anger with the United States, yesterday attacked this "linkage" as "totally unnecessary". The Israeli press said Mr Baker's tough remarks were making it even more difficult for Mr Shamir to persuade the Likud rebels to accept the peace talks terms when the inner Cabinet meets tomorrow, because they would accuse the Israeli leader of bowing to American pressure.

Some settlers' leaders argue that Israel should "proudly assert" its claim to land not only in the West Bank but also in Jerusalem, instead of "disguising the issue". At Efrat, on the West Bank just beyond Bethlehem, Jewish settlers have bought three square kilometres of rocky, olive tree-covered hillside to expand their settlement from 450 families to 5,000, in the hope of settling Russian immigrants. The Efrat settlers say they are on good terms with their Arab farming neighbours. Other settlements also within commuting distance of Jerusalem, such as Maale Adumim, which towers on the hills over the approach from Jerusalem to the Dead Sea, are beginning to act as dormitory towns and are building housing for Soviet immigrants. Some diplomats see

this as more of an issue than Soviet settlement at Ariel, near Nablus, where several dozen Russian families have moved in, causing the PLO to describe Soviet immigration as "an act of war".

In Jerusalem's suburbs, new immigrants are given \$210 a month to meet the cost of renting a two-bedroom flat during their first year. This makes housing attractively inexpensive not only in Gilo but also in the four other Jewish satellite settlements across the green line: Ramot, East Talpiot, French Hill and Neve Yaakov.

Mr Teddy Kollek, the Mayor of Jerusalem, who has tried since 1967 to maintain tolerance in a united city under Israeli rule, said suburbs beyond the green line had consisted of government land under Jordanian rule, much of it being previously unusable rocky terrain. No land had been bought from Arabs, he said.

Mr Kollek said that for Israel to settle Soviet Jews in the West Bank was "neither relevant nor practical if the territories are to be relinquished", but added that a "considerable number" of immigrants should be settled in Jerusalem "to strengthen it as the capital of Israel". Compared to the "tremendous financial benefits" offered to immigrants

settling in the West Bank, immigrants who lived in Jerusalem suburbs were given no greater inducements than those who chose to live in Tel Aviv, he said. The Jewish suburbs were built on land considered "unfit for grazing" under previous regimes, and "every tree was planted by us."

For Professor Goldman, a 53-year-old biochemist, Israel is above all a welcome refuge from anti-Semitism and lack of professional opportunity in the Soviet Union. He and others have come to Israel partly because the liberal policies of President Gorbachev have opened the door, and partly because the United States has imposed strict limits on immigration. "I just wanted to get out of Russia, and realized that it really was possible," he says. Professor Goldman's main preoccupation is to find work for himself and his 25-year-old son, Igor.

Others at Gilo such as Mr Viktor Savitsky, who arrived at the end of December, say they are grateful to Israel but, given the choice, would prefer to take their families to the United States. "To be honest, I chose Jerusalem for the climate," he said. "They say it is dangerous, but... there is more crime on the average Moscow street."

Leading article, page 11

UK ready to use tougher line to deter boat people

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Editor

The British Government disclosed yesterday that it is prepared to take far more drastic measures than previously thought if a huge new influx of Vietnamese boat people arrives in Hong Kong.

A high-placed government source said the international community had been "put on notice" of its intentions, while another Whitehall source said Britain was prepared to "push the panic button" if forced to do so.

The annual "sailing season", when weather conditions favour the boats, is due to start now. The Government hopes that deterrent measures already taken will greatly reduce the numbers leaving Vietnam, but has prepared contingency measures.

It would immediately call an emergency meeting of the 29-nation International Conference on Indochina Refugees to approve the setting up of a large-scale rapid screening system in Hong Kong.

Those found not to be genuine refugees would be sent back, whether Vietnam consented or not. If hundreds arrived daily, as in the past, hundreds could be sent back daily, possibly in ships or fleets of aircraft and buses. Instead of being held for months or years, as at present, they would be turned around in days.

Contrary to previous indications, the Government believes that the US Government would reluctantly acquiesce to such measures if there was a clear emergency. Whitehall and Hong Kong sources said that all 29 nations, including the US, agreed in principle to this procedure at a meeting of the Steering Committee in Geneva in January.

The meeting ended in a 27-2 deadlock over the timing of mandatory repatriation flights to Vietnam, with only Washington and Hanoi opposing a consensus. But the sources said this was a separate matter and did not affect the agreement on an emergency procedure.

The Government believes

Vietnam would find it difficult to turn away its own people if faced with an agreement carrying international approval. But if it did, Britain would consider the still more drastic step of abolishing the policy of "first asylum", under which boat people have a right to land in Hong Kong. The policy was agreed by the same international body in 1979, but is unpopular in Hong Kong.

This would be a last resort and might lead to condemnation from the United States and some European nations. No indication has been given as to how it would be enforced, but it would inevitably mean turning boats away, possibly using naval launches to force them out to sea.

The Government hopes that none of this will be necessary. Official sources emphasize that the numbers arriving so far this year have been much lower than last year. They believe the mandatory repatriation flight last November, when 51 people were sent back against their will, has discouraged many people in what was North Vietnam, though it has had less effect in the south. It also says that Hanoi has tried to spread the word that Hong Kong is no longer a safe bet.

But its optimism is open to question, because the picture will not be clear until late March or early April. The urgency with which it has been pressing Hanoi to agree to more mandatory flights implies strong concern. Britain sees mandatory flights as a far better deterrent than voluntary ones.

The timing of Britain's tougher line may be linked to a visit by Sir David Wilson, Governor of Hong Kong, due to arrive on Thursday for talks with Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary. There is resentment in the colony against the boat people.

One of Sir David's aims will be to secure a big British contribution to the cost, estimated at £90 million this year, of running the detention centres.

Ethiopian planes hit food stocks

By Daniel Treisman

Ethiopian government planes dropped napalm on civilians and food stocks last month after the northern port of Massawa fell to rebel forces, according to an aid worker who recently returned from the country.

The claim was made after Ethiopia appealed on Thursday for donations to airlift food to the drought-stricken province of Eritrea amid fears that the escalating civil war in the north could mean starvation for up to four million people.

Aid workers and officials are already saying that failure to get aid to the highlands of Eritrea and Tigré could lead to a repeat of the famine of 1984-1985 in which up to one million Ethiopians died.

Miss Susan Watkins, an official of Oxfam Canada who visited Massawa between February 18 and 20, said that of 65 civilian casualties in a hospital in the port 25 were suffering from napalm burns. Others, including children, said they had been shot by government soldiers as they tried to escape.

"The Government dropped napalm and destroyed at least two warehouses that I saw and set three stockpiles of grain on fire," Miss Watkins said. "It was clear that food aid was a target in the bombardment."

MiG fighter-bombers also dropped napalm on sparsely wooded areas 12 miles outside the port where civilians were sheltering for days after the town was captured, according to survivors interviewed by Miss Watkins.

Up to 50,000 tons of food was believed to be in Massawa before it fell to the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) on February 10, cutting off an enclave of government-controlled territory around Keren and Asmara from supply by sea.

The Ethiopian Government had agreed in January to a pilot scheme for church relief agencies to send food into northern Tigré by road from Massawa. This was stopped after the EPLF attack.

Relief agencies believe about 1.9 million people in Eritrea and 2.2 million in Tigré face famine in the coming months.

The EPLF is now believed to hold most of Eritrea, while the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, which includes the Tigré People's Liberation Front and the smaller Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement, controls Tigré and large parts of Gondar and Wollo provinces.

Mr Yilma Kassaye, the head of the Ethiopian Government's Relief Commission,

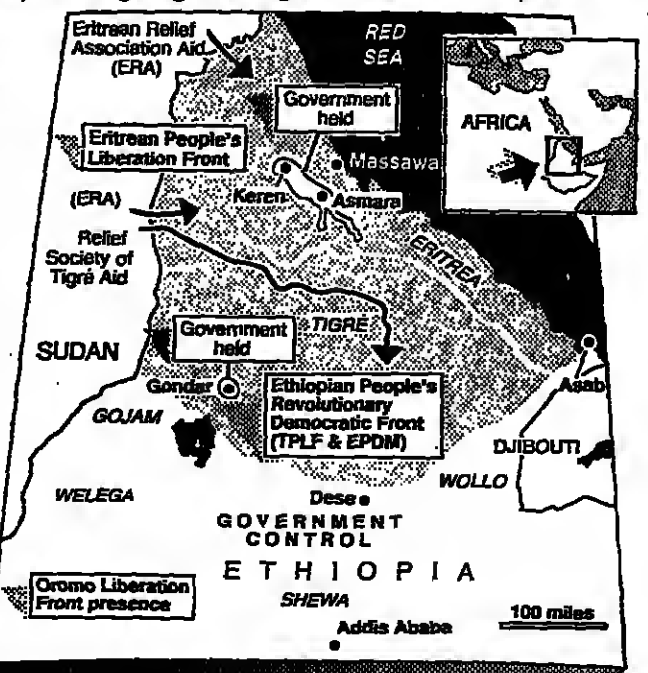


Church militant: A Coptic priest, who is fighting in the Tigré rebel ranks with cross and rifle.

appealed on Thursday for \$14 million (£8.5 million) a month to fly 14 cargo planes in a shuttle from the Red Sea port of Asab to the Eritrean capital of Asmara, in what would be the largest airlift of famine relief food in Ethiopia.

He also asked donors to provide 583 lorries to transport food from Asab to drought victims in Tigré and Eritrea by road. But aid workers believe that such an airlift may be prohibitively expensive, and transporting food to the north by road is impossible without a ceasefire in Tigré.

Miss Watkins called for greater support to the rebel forces' own relief agencies — the Eritrean Relief Association and the Relief Society of Tigré — which transport food across the Sudan border to areas controlled by the rebels.



Kashmir curfew after shootings

Srinagar (Reuter) — An indefinite curfew was imposed on Kashmir yesterday after up to 40 people were killed in demonstrations against Indian rule of the country's only Muslim-majority state. Exactly how many died and what prompted security forces to open fire during Thursday's demonstrations were still disputed yesterday, but the government of Jammu and Kashmir state, whose summer capital of Srinagar was the venue of the anti-Indian protests, said 15 people were killed when security forces opened fire to defend themselves from stone-throwing crowds.

However, hospital doctors said they had seen 25 bodies, while a police officer said 40 people had died in the bloodiest event by far in the campaign against Indian rule. India claims the campaign is orchestrated by militant groups armed and trained by Pakistan.

Nepal general strike

Kathmandu (Reuter) — A general strike that Nepal's banned political parties called to back their campaign for multi-party democracy virtually shut down the city. Police saturated the capital, but little violence was reported. The Nepalese Congress Party, which heads the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy along with communist parties, claimed the strike was successful in most towns.

But the Government of King Birendra, aged 44, has shown willingness to alter the political system. It says that in a country sandwiched between India and China parties would be influenced from abroad. Political parties were outlawed 30 years ago, as the Himalayan kingdom moved to a partyless system of elected councils.

New Kaifu challenge

Tokyo — The attack on Mr Toshiki Kaifu, the Japanese Prime Minister, widened yesterday when a senior leader of his own Liberal Democratic Party asked him to clear up allegations that he got twice as much in donations from the disgraced Recruit company as he initially acknowledged (see Joseph writes). The call by Mr Michio Watanabe, who was snubbed earlier this week when Mr Kaifu refused to include one of his allies in the new Cabinet, is seen as a shameful move by Mr Watanabe — who has his eyes on the Prime Minister's job — to oust Mr Kaifu. Mr Kaifu again denied claims made in *Shukan Bunshun*, a weekly magazine, that he received 26.3 million yen (£105,622) from Recruit, not 14.4 million yen as stated earlier.

Ivory Coast clashes

Abidjan (Reuter) — Police fired tear gas at high school pupils and beat civil servants in protests in the Ivory Coast yesterday. The protests began two weeks ago with demands for university reforms but spread to workers opposed to austerity moves which could cut salaries by 40 per cent.

The demonstrations pose the most serious challenge in three decades to President Houphouët-Boigny, aged 84, who has ruled since independence. Many diplomats and businessmen expect them to intensify next week when the Government announces its decision on wage cuts. The Ivory Coast, with its fortunes built by its main export of cocoa, is in an economic tailspin caused by plummeting world prices for commodities.

Officer sues Zsa Zsa

Los Angeles (Reuter) — Mr Paul Kramer, the 6ft 4in Beverly Hills policeman who was slapped by Zsa Zsa Gabor when he stopped her Rolls-Royce, filed a \$10 million (£5 million) lawsuit against her here on Thursday, accusing her of causing him emotional and physical distress. A lawyer for the officer alleged that Gabor, eight-times married, had appeared on numerous radio and talk shows in recent months and had engaged in a malicious and vindictive campaign to defame his client. The star was sentenced last October to spend three days in jail, fined \$12,000 and ordered to serve 120 hours in a shelter for homeless women for slapping Mr Kramer. She was also ordered to put her true age on her driving licence. She claims she is 59.

In Nicaragua guns still count more than ballot boxes

Sandinistas close ranks against change

From Charles Bremner, Managua

Dozens of young soldiers were reported yesterday to have deserted from the Nicaraguan Army as the defeated Sandinista Government negotiated with advisers of Señora Violeta Chamorro, the President-elect, on the fate of the left-wing forces.

The teenage conscripts were said to have fled their units in the mountains where the Sandinista Popular Army (EPS) is still fighting the Contra rebels. The EPS denied the desertions, but the young men's relatives said they felt no further obligation since Señora Chamorro had promised to end conscription after taking office on April 25.

The reluctance of the United States' proxy army to lay down their arms after the election victory of the US-backed UNO coalition has complicated the delicate task of persuading the Sandinistas to relinquish control of the army. The issue of who controls the 100,000-strong forces, the region's biggest, is dominating the transition talks between General Hum-

berto Ortega, the brother of President Ortega, and Señora Chamorro's team.

For many officers taking orders from allies of the insurgents is an unthinkable affront. Deeply distrustful, they are joining a groundswell of defiance among Sandinista loyalists towards the results of last Sunday's election.

"Tell Daniel he is not alone. We are awaiting his call to take up arms to our defence," Señora Carmen Vallejo, an office worker from León, speaks for many Nicaraguans who believe the AK-47 Kalashnikov rifle remains their best recourse for avenging the "betrayal" of their revolution in last Sunday's elections.

In the years when the US was expected to invade what it viewed as a Soviet beachhead, Nicaragua's Sandinista regime distributed tens of thousands of weapons to the citizenry. Retrieving them from militants is just one of the daunting tasks facing Señora Chamorro's administration.

Lo leaffers passed around Managua this week, the Brigades for the Defence of the Revolution, a sort of party-run Home Guard, instructed: "Do not hand over the people's weapons to the Somocista guard and assassins of the people."

Señor Lenin Cerna, the hardline director of the state security service, summed up what he said was the attitude of many in the party.

"There is going to be a new government but you cannot change the regime. I will never obey the orders of Violeta." He predicted that the Sandinistas would never turn over their weapons to UNO.

The Sandinista front remains by far the most powerful force in the country and enjoys the loyalty of thousands of highly motivated senior officers in the armed forces, police, public service and media.

Many believe "the people" were coerced through years of US economic and military assault into relinquishing their sovereignty last Sunday.

Many have no time for "bourgeois democracy", believing their party retains a historic mandate, Bolshevik-style, to transform the nation into a workers' state.

Although Sandinista leaders are urging their supporters to respect the election result, the spectre of armed insurrection is one of many factors that will force the new government to concede a share of power. As *Nuevo Diario*, a pro-Sandinista newspaper, said: "This means the Sandinistas will remain a power the United States must reckon with."

President Ortega has laid down an ambiguous strategy that raises doubts about his intentions of becoming a loyal opposition. He has promised to resist any dismantling of his revolutionary reforms and to preserve Sandinista control of the armed forces, all within the framework of the constitution. "We will be a constructive but belligerent opposition," he said.

Diplomats believe Señora Ortega will hand over executive and government power

but use the Sandinistas' strength to disrupt UNO's plans, just short of prompting international condemnation.

The new government recognizes that it must tread delicately. Señor Arturo Cruz, a UNO adviser who served as a minister in the early Sandinista government and then became a political leader of the Contra rebel army, said Señora Chamorro should keep the Sandinistas in a key position in the armed forces and in certain ministries — particularly in agrarian reform.

Many in the new administration believe that, if they can handle things delicately, the loyalty of the Sandinista faithful will gradually erode.

Another view holds that the election defeat could prove the Sandinistas' salvation. It allows them to shed the compromises of power and return to their revolutionary ideals. Señor Cruz said he believed President Ortega's moral standing had "skyrocketed" with his graceful acceptance of defeat this week.

ANC returns Mandela to the anti-apartheid helm

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Mr Nelson Mandela was elected deputy president of the African National Congress in Lusaka yesterday, paving the way for him to take over as president from Mr Oliver Tambo, who is in a Stockholm nursing home after suffering a crippling stroke late last year.

The decision, announced after a two-day meeting of the ANC National Executive Committee in the Zambian capital, makes Mr Mandela effectively the ANC's leader.

At the same time the executive announced that it was seeking immediate talks with the South African Government about the release of all political prisoners.

It said it welcomed the "positive response" by President de Klerk so far but declared: "It is also of vital importance that the Pretoria regime moves without delay to remove all other obstacles standing in the way of negotiations."

Mr Walter Sisulu and Mr Govan Mbeki, ANC veterans who were freed from life imprisonment in South Africa last year in advance of Mr

Mandela's release last month, have been appointed members of the executive.

The ANC is to move its headquarters to Johannesburg without delay, the statement said, and regional and local offices will soon be set up elsewhere in South Africa.

● Exiles return: The first ANC members to return home

Johannesburg — Five white prisoners at Pretoria Central, the maximum security prison, yesterday showed solidarity with hundreds of black convicts on Robben Island, near Cape Town (Nicholas Beeston writes). They went on hunger strike to demand the immediate release of all political prisoners in South Africa.

to South Africa since Mr de Klerk lifted the ban on the organization arrived to a heroes' welcome yesterday.

Miss Ray Alexander, aged 76, a veteran activist, and her husband, Mr Jack Simon, 83, were greeted at Jan Smuts airport, near Johannesburg, by about 500 ANC supporters and family members, many of

whom they had not seen for a quarter of a century.

The frail couple emerged into the arrivals hall after their flight from Lusaka with clenched fists held high and blowing kisses to the cheering crowd. There was a heavy police presence at the airport, but no reported incidents.

"This is a great and joyous occasion. We must see that the breakthrough in South Africa is widened and our people take over power in a peaceful and orderly manner," Miss Alexander said. She was banned from union activities by the Government in 1953.

Mr Simon was a lecturer at the University of Cape Town before being banned in 1965 from writing for publication or attending public meetings. The couple left the country soon afterwards.

During his years in exile Mr Simon has been a key figure in formulating the ANC's constitutional guidelines for a post-apartheid South Africa.

The couple have been offered honorary fellowships at the University of Cape Town's Centre for African Studies.

CHANGING FACE OF EUROPE

Pledge of exchange rate parity boosts East German mark

From Ian Murray, East Berlin

The strength of the once despised East German mark grows daily with the belief that it will by the summer be exchanged at parity with the Deutschmark of its powerful West German neighbour.

The illicit money-changers in the Alexanderplatz here or round the Zoo railway station in West Berlin are now eager to buy up the tiny East German notes which were for so long regarded as little more than Monopoly money.

In recent days the black-market exchange rate for the Ostmark has soared. When the Berlin Wall opened last November the money was changing hands at a rate of 20 Ostmarks to DM1. Today the going rate is one to five, with some dealers offering no more than four Ostmarks.

The reason is that Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, who surprised the West German banking world by suddenly announcing his plan for currency union between the two Germanies last month, now says he is "sympathetic" to the idea of a one-for-one exchange rate and wants it to happen as soon as possible after the election.

Herr Kohl promised a cheering crowd of 200,000 in Karl-Marx-Stadt on Thursday evening that a currency exchange rate would be brought in which would take social considerations into account.

Bild, which has been very accurate in its scoops on East Germany in recent months, yesterday announced that the parity exchange rate would begin on July 1.

What has won the Chancellor's sympathy is the plight of small savers, who between them have amassed a total of 177 billion Ostmarks. Although the average monthly pay here is only 830 Ostmarks, high subsidies on basics have left people with little on which to spend, so they have kept their cash in banks.

Now the Chancellor and his Cabinet accept that it would be very unfair to penalize these millions of small savers by devaluing their life savings.

Herr Otto Föhl, the president of the Bundesbank, however, remains very unhappy

Kohl reassures leading US rabbi

New York — The West German Chancellor, Herr Helmut Kohl, has written to a leading American rabbi to allay Jewish fears about German reunification. (James Bone writes.)

In a letter to Rabbi Marvin Hier, Dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre for Holocaust studies in Los Angeles, Herr Kohl said that East Germans were fed up with communism and "immune to any new totalitarian temptations". He also stressed that West Germans had left the Nazi era behind.

cause people in the GDR are afraid of losing their savings... We just have to be clear about one thing. The better it is for the savers, the worse it will be for creditors — and they have those in the GDR, too."

If **Bild** is again correct, the savers will initially be allowed to change only a limited amount at parity. A figure of DM1,000-2,000 has been suggested. The remainder of their money would have to remain in Ostmarks, earning D-mark interest, being unfrozen when it makes sense to do so.

The next round in the talks on currency union takes place in Bonn on Monday.

● **Bewildering choice:** East German voters, who could only pick communists or their allies when they went to the polls last May, will be faced with a bewildering choice for the election to be held tomorrow fortnight. New parties are

still being formed, but already the Volkskammer (parliament) has registered 38 parties and three others have announced they intend to contest seats.

No less than 12 of the fledgling parties have the word "democratic" in their title, and another seven are "socialist".

The Social Democratic Party, which uses both of the favoured words for its name, is shown by polls as being the most likely to emerge on top, with some predictions giving it more than 50 per cent of the vote. The party has been the swiftest to organize and rediscover its old power base in the country.

The more right-wing parties, grouped together with the help of Herr Kohl, as the Alliance for Germany, are basing their attack on the word "socialist", which was also in the title of the renamed communist party, now disguising itself as the Democratic Social Party, which claims it is offering a new kind of socialism.

The liberal parties, despite the popular support of Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, have little obvious chance. They have, however, been alarmed by an offer from Mr Ronald Reagan, the former US President, to make a speech on their behalf in East Berlin.

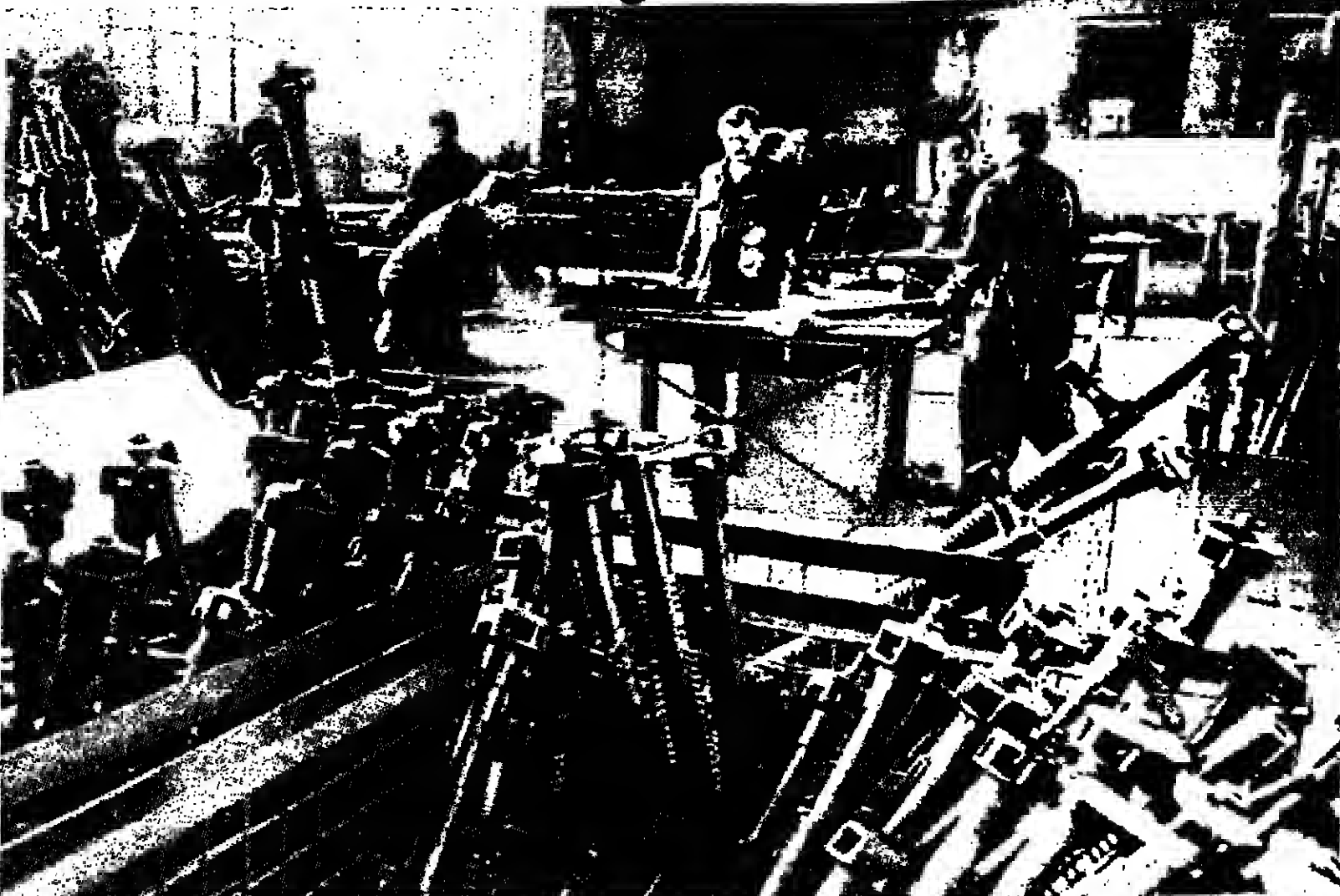
"Frankly, we do not think a man who threatened to bomb Moscow can be described as a liberal," a spokesman for one of the parties said.

New Forum, the opposition organization so prominent early in East Germany's peaceful revolution, has no real political experience and has formed a friendly alliance with like-minded parties campaigning as *Bürger für Bürger* (Citizen for Citizen).

The ecologists and the women's rights movement have got together to form a "green-lib" federation, while the United Left has split into a complex of splinter parties.

One universally popular group is the "German Beer Drinkers' Union", campaigning for beer to be kept at present East German levels,

Guns of the militia go into the melting pot



On to the scrapheap: Files of redundant machine-guns being prepared for the smelters by workmen at the central workshop of the East German Interior Ministry at Schöenberg, near Magdeburg. The machine-guns were handed in to the authorities by members of the country's recently disbanded militia units.

Disgruntled town cuts free from past

From Anne McElvoy, Plauen

Down in Plauen they are busy with the scissors again for the second time since the war. On a makeshift market stall in the centre of the town, which nestles, neglected and self-absorbed, in the deep south of East Germany, just a few miles from the Bavarian border in one direction and the Czech border in the other, Herr Peter Brinker is selling West German flags to a mainly young clientele.

His wife is occupied at home picking out the stitches of the hammer and compass circle from the East German flag to render it West German.

He regales the small crowd with a familiar tale. "My grandparents did the same thing in 1945 — cut the swastika circle away and, hey presto, the red flag." The locals guffaw at the recognition of a shared absurdity.

Plauen has always been one of the most disgruntled towns in the country, confining itself sullenly to the yoke of the communist party and considered best left to its own devices by the regional party leadership in Karl-Marx-Stadt, who were never able to orchestrate the ritual shows of socialist fervour among the population that were the norm elsewhere.

They are still disgruntled. Having chased the communists from office, the citizens of Plauen are now disappointed with the alternatives. "All the new parties are too soft on the Reds," says one young man wearing a T-shirt proclaiming "I am proud to be German." "What we need is

our pride back. We have been rotting here for 40 years."

He says he would vote Republican if he had the chance, adding that the "Red rats" — the standard term of reference here for the Government — have banned the extreme right-wing party from over the border.

His neighbour adds that the communists are still plotting for power.

"They should be hanged," he says and the crowd nod in agreement.

Only the German Social Union, whose election campaign consists mainly of posters announcing "freedom instead of socialism", inspires enthusiastic support here.

The majority of residents see the pace of reunification as tardy and appear to want it

today if not earlier. On a busy weekday one has the feeling that unity has already taken place without the official go-ahead. At the frontier queues of East German cars on one side are matched by queues of West German cars on the other. Few locals now bother with the once traditional weekend outing to Czechoslovakia now that the West is available.

Hoardings announce forthcoming concerts in the nearby town of Hof in the West, while Bavarian pensioners are brought in by bus from Ingolstadt and Bayreuth to drink coffee in tiny cafes.

In the market place, grocery stores have been set up offering oranges and tomatoes — exotic delicacies in the East German winter — to those

luckily enough to have Western currency to buy them.

Three cross-border marriages have already taken place since the opening in November.

Plauen is living proof that the political traditions of southern Germany outlive enforced conformity. The proximity to the Bavarian border places it under what Germans call the "white sausage line" — the parts of the country where the sausage and politics are better than in the more moderate north.

In an attempt to quell dissent the Volksarmee stationed its largest officers' school here some years ago, only to find that its recruits were constantly hulked and mocked by the locals. The Army withdrew last year.

Defector breaks 10-year silence

KGB 'studied plan to kill Pope'

From James Bone, New York

After a decade of silence, a previously unknown KGB defector has revealed the existence of a possible Soviet plot to assassinate the Pope.

Former KGB Major Viktor Sheymov, whose 1980 defection to the United States was until yesterday a closely guarded secret, said that in 1979 he saw a KGB cable signed by Mr Yuri Andropov, who was to become leader, asking for information about how to get close to the Polish-born Pope.

"Everyone knew what it meant," Mr Sheymov said in an interview with *The Washington Post*. It meant they wanted to assassinate the Pope.

Mr Sheymov also disclosed that the KGB considered whether its agents should try to break the legs of Rudolf Nureyev, the Soviet ballet dancer who had defected in 1961 and was continuing to make anti-Communist statements.

He also recalled hearing office gossip about KGB plans to kill another defector, Mr Yuri Nosenko, who crossed to the United States in 1964. One possible murder plot involved putting a poison needle on the

seat of Mr Nosenko's car. Mr Sheymov's information may help to resolve the great debate in Western intelligence agencies about whether Mr Nosenko was a false defector planted by the KGB.

Mr Sheymov worked in the Eighth Chief Directorate, which handles communications intelligence and is probably the most sensitive part of the KGB.

He said that his reason for speaking out was to be able to comment on Soviet-American relations and because "no secret lasts forever. This one lasted 10 years, and that's enough."

"The peculiar thing about me was that I was in the inner sanctum of the KGB, so I knew the whole system, including the Cipher system," he said.

Born in Moscow on May 9, 1946, the son of an engineer and a cardiologist, he attended one of Moscow's best schools and then studied at the elite Moscow State Technical University, where he went to "School M", a department specializing in missiles and spacecraft.

He left the university in 1969 to work on missile

guidance systems for a secret enterprise called the Central Scientific Research Institute No 50 of the Ministry of Defence, where he was involved in designing an infra-red guidance system for an anti-satellite missile fired from a spacecraft.

He left the institute in 1971, at the age of 25, and joined the KGB's Eighth Chief Directorate. In 1974, he was sent to the headquarters of the First Chief Directorate in Yasenevo, outside Moscow, which oversees KGB foreign intelligence operations. He



Ali Agca: Assassination bid linked to Soviet Union.

worked as a communications watch officer monitoring KGB message traffic and helping to prepare a daily intelligence summary for members of the Politburo.

Mr Sheymov was meeting the KGB general who officially headed the Secret Services Warsaw office in 1979, when the undercover station chief, a Colonel Solov'yev, arrived saying he had received an urgent cable from Moscow.

The cable said: "Obtain all the information possible how to get physically close to the Pope." It was signed by the then chief of the KGB Mr Andropov, who succeeded Leonid Brezhnev as Soviet leader in 1982.

Mr Sheymov recalled that the KGB general complained to his two colleagues: "If we do that, we'll have to kill him all the (Poles) or get out of here."

The KGB has previously been linked to the May 1981 attempt on the Pope's life by Mehmet Ali Agca, through the so-called "Bulgarian connection" which speculates that the Bulgarian Secret Service employed Turkish organized crime to kill the Pontiff with the Soviet Union's blessing.

Hungary bugging inquiry unveils party surveillance

From Ernest Beck, Budapest

Mr Miklos Nemeth, the Hungarian Prime Minister, and other leading members of the ruling Socialist Party, continued to receive secret reports about legalized opposition parties from the Interior Ministry, even after Hungary adopted a new democratic constitution last October, a special parliamentary committee said yesterday.

The committee, investigating the "Danubegate" bugging scandal, suggested that Mr Nemeth, Mr Imre Pozsgay, the Minister of State, as well as Mr Matyas Szuros, the acting President, might still be receiving the covertly gathered information although the Interior Security Service has been officially disbanded.

MPs, most of whom were elected as members of the Communist Party, effectively blocked attempts to read out the entire report in Parliament. Instead, it is to be published in a small circulation government gazette.

Two opposition MPs, Mr Gaspar Miklos Tamas, a member of the committee, and Dr Eva Ballo, both of the Alliance of Free Democrats, walked out in protest after the report was quashed.

"We cannot pretend any longer that this Parliament serves the peaceful transition to democracy and we want to stress that under no circumstances can we tolerate this violation of the legal order," Mr Tamas said after leaving the chamber.

He added that those who had advocated reform in the past obviously did not recognize political morality and should withdraw from public life after the election.

Mr Nemeth, who is a candidate in the multi-party election set for March 25, gave a spirited defence of his actions but said he could not have known how the information he received had been gathered. He claimed that because of the enormous task of dismantling the one-party state he had overlooked the reorganization of the Interior Ministry, concentrating instead on the Defence Ministry.

Although Mr Nemeth accepted responsibility for the affair, he said that the Interior Security Service was needed on several occasions after last October to investigate possible terrorist attacks, and rumours of a plot by former Hungarian Communist Party members to stage a military coup last November, with the

help of Romanian and Czechoslovak forces.

However, he said that most of the reports contained worthless information which eventually appeared in newspapers. "Our society has enough trouble and tension at the moment so let us put all of this aside," Mr Nemeth concluded, adding that he would not give up his political career.

The Danubegate affair, in which the Interior Ministry's Internal Secret Service bugged the telephones and flats of prominent opposition leaders and planted "moles" to spy on opposition party meetings, has already led to the resignation of the Interior Minister and other top ministry officials.

But opposition parties were hoping to reveal with the parliamentary report the full extent of continuing surveillance activities being carried out by the Government, which is now supposed to be completely separate from the former Communist Party.

The scandal is likely to remain a big campaign issue as many opposition parties are emphasizing the Government's corrupt past and the need for a complete purge of the old regime.

But the Vietnamese workers are stuck where they are, in the concrete blocks of Central Europe and far away from home. Unpleasant it may be, but there is little future for them back in Vietnam.

The official estimate of seven million unemployed out of Vietnam's total workforce of 25 million is probably understating the case. The Vietnamese economy seems to be improving. The exchange rate is more realistic, there have been serious cuts in state subsidies and defence spending and there are accelerating moves towards the market. But Poland is going through a similar upheaval.

The Vietnamese are thus caught between two societies in transit and, on the whole, Poland is the more comfortable.

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Czech eye on place in EC sun

From Michael Binyon, Brussels

Czechoslovakia yesterday threw its support behind the call for a clear guarantee in Bonn of East Germany's border with Poland, and said Poland had a right to take part in meetings where its own interests were discussed.

Mr Jiri Dienstbier, the Czechoslovak Foreign Minister, said the "two plus four" discussions on German reunification should be only preliminary, and the issue should be settled in the framework of the Helsinki process. This should also not only ratify the borders in Europe and the end of the Cold War, but create new European institutions.

He said German reunification should be the instrument for speeding up the process of European unification and called all the various proposed solutions for a unified German membership of Nato "artificial".

The two alliance structures no longer corresponded with necessity, he said. A new security framework had to be worked out by the 35-nation summit of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe.

Mr Dienstbier spoke after talks here with commission officials on a new, more broad-ranging agreement between Czechoslovakia and the European Community. He emphasized that his country's long-term goal was full membership of the EC — "all of us should be members of one European Community," he said.

He and Mr Zdenek Pierek, the Deputy Foreign Minister, denounced the continuing Western restrictions on high-technology exports imposed by the Co-ordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (Cocom), but said they were pleased by recent positive gestures by the United States.

The EC announced yesterday that Czechoslovakia would be given the special aid already given to Poland and Hungary. But Mr Pierek said his country did not need the same help as it was in a different situation. It wanted educational aid, management training, environmental co-operation and structural adjustment of its economy.

Hard times shatter dream of Eastern bloc's boat people

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Hai and his girl friend are on the run. At the Mekong central restaurant, a friend of a friend of the waiter, knew how to contact him so we drove out to Ursynow, a tower block suburb with the soul of an insect.

"Hey, Hai," shouted the interpreter through the closed door. Hai is a demobbed Vietnamese soldier. As such he won priority on the list of Vietnamese allowed to work in Eastern Europe, the dream ticket for 200,000 people fleeing the poverty and over 20 per cent unemployment.

Will these 200,000 become the new "boat people" repatriated by the East Europeans, who no longer feel any great sense of socialist obligation to the poorest of Comecon partners?

Certainly the main employers — the Soviet Union.

Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Poland and Bulgaria — are watching closely the drama of repatriation from Hong Kong.

Hai would not come out. We left down the stairwell since the lifts broke some time last year, the year of revolution. Outside, near the rubbish skips, we waited for 20 minutes until Hai emerged and, seeing us, sprinted like a rabbit. In the end, wrestled down by his friend, my interpreter, he was prepared to talk for cigarettes.

Hai's girl friend was recruited with a batch of respectable middle-class girls to be a seamstress in central Poland. She is the daughter of a manager of a state-run factory, and her fellow seamstresses include the daughter of an actor and the wife of a surgeon. They are driven to work from a hostel to a Lodz

textile factory which is selling its cloths to Britain. The girls say that working conditions are bad — they cannot even move around on the shop floor and the Polish supervisors are too strict. The food is fatty and indigestible.

The managers say that they paid the girls' air fares, a three-month training course and provided warm clothes for winter. Their monthly salary is about 400,000 zloties, or about £25 average for the textile industry. In Vietnam they would be earning about 40,000 dong (£6) a month.

All the girls were committed to sending back money to their families, but as prices have been increased again and again in Poland, so their wage packets have been squeezed. Now the salary barely covers food and cosmetics.

The girl made a run for it and found Hai who does, as

they used to say, a little bit of this and a little bit of that. At the moment he sells rice vodka on the black market, but other fugitives — that is Vietnamese who have broken their work contracts and who are running loose in strange countries — meddle with

● The main employers are watching closely the drama of repatriation from Hong Kong

prostitution, sell drugs, steal and repair cars. It is a long way from the original arrangement that bound the rich and poor members of the socialist community, a blend of self-interest and humanitarian instinct.

Vietnam, after its long, debilitating war with America, was deeply in debt to the

Soviet bloc and had a huge surplus of manpower. Many East European countries had manpower shortages — artificially created, it now emerges, by a central planning machine which bloated factories with under-employed workers. Deals were struck not only with Vietnam, but with Cuba and North Korea.

The *Gastarbeiter* arrived, lured by promises of vocational training and big wage packets. In East Germany, there are still some 80,000 Vietnamese, in Czechoslovakia 40,000. In the Soviet Union, where the workers have been arriving since 1981, there are close to 80,000.

Disillusion swiftly set in. Wages, fixed by contract, do not keep pace with inflation which in the new post-communist era is more openly acknowledged. According to

Hai, managers exploit the Vietnamese, demanding longer working hours than for Polish workers. They live apart from Polish workers and can visit their families once every four years.

The workers have started to protest to Hanoi, and Vietnamese delegations have been arriving to renegotiate the arrangements with the host countries. Only East German factories seem to treat the Vietnamese fairly, giving them language courses and savings books.

But Vietnamese there say that, while their employers are good, the local shopkeepers and residents are becoming more hostile. On the walls of Vietnamese hostels in Leipzig, somebody has scrawled in letters two yards high *Ausländer raus* — foreigners out. In East Berlin, there has been at least one rape of a Viet-

namese worker and several brawls.

But the Vietnamese workers are stuck where they are, in the concrete blocks of Central Europe and far away from home. Unpleasant it may be, but there is little future for them back in Vietnam.

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CHANGING FACE OF EUROPE

Election apathy as mood of disillusion grips Soviet voters

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

The Soviet election campaign reaches its climax tomorrow, with polling in the Russian Federation, the Ukraine and Belorussia — amounting to nearly two-thirds of the Soviet population.

Official exhortations to vote — which have grown more excited by the day — have met with markedly less enthusiasm, however, than in last April's nationwide elections to the Congress of People's Deputies. "Fellow citizens," says one banner across Gorky Street, "the watchword of Moscow is realism, conviction and action."

Even an attempt to instil festivity by opening markets, hanging coloured flags and fusing the election with the public holiday for International Women's Day has had little effect.

Officials in Moscow reckon they will be fortunate if more than 60 per cent vote. This figure might not disgrace a Western democracy, but in the Soviet Union — where observers used to regard a turnout of less than 98 per cent as tantamount to a defeat — it is a disappointment to those with a stake in President Gorbachev's democratisation.

The change in atmosphere is blamed on voters' disillusionment with the novelty. In Moscow there had also been the additional Boris Yeltsin element, when crowds flocked to the maverick politician. This time Mr Yeltsin is standing in his home city of

Sverdlovsk in the Urals and charismatic candidates are few and far between.

Disillusion is setting in. Why vote, people ask, when shops are empty? Voting last spring did not make them fuller; it won't this year either.

In a few parts of the Russian Federation, and in both the Ukraine and Belorussia, the vote is made more interesting and less predictable by the popular fronts. The performance of Rukh, the Ukrainian Nationalist Group, will be closely watched to see how serious a challenge it will pose in coming months.

In the Russian Federation generally, the political spectrum is narrower and more conservative. An opinion poll in Moscow and Kiev found that 41 per cent considered better living standards a priority, while only 3 per cent wanted a greater say in decision-making and 30 per cent considered openness and free speech important.

So far as the candidates are concerned, a few espouse Russian nationalist views, some advocate economic autonomy (by which they mean an end to subsidies for other, especially Asian, republics) and all desire a more prosperous and influential Russia.

They differ on approving private property and putting law and order above democratisation, but they all want reform, greater prosperity, lower inflation and better provision of food and con-

sumer goods — without hinting how these might be achieved.

A report by the official Tass news agency yesterday said "opposition groups" were likely to win at least one third of the seats for the Moscow city council, but the definition of opposition is unclear.

Almost all the candidates are Communists, some adhere to the radical, Yeltsin wing of the party, others object to what they call Mr Yeltsin's demagoguery but would not call themselves adherents of Mr Yeltsin's ideological opponent, Mr Yegor Ligachov.

Informal groups have multiplied in the past two years, most more akin to discussion circles than to incipient political parties. They range from the extreme right — the various branches and offshoots of the shadowy Pamyat organization and monarchists — to the extreme left Radical Party and anarcho-syndicalists. In the middle are Christian democrats, liberal democrats, social democrats and a host of tiny informal associations.

They meet in private flats and offices around tea and biscuits — and try to get the world to rights, without any hope of obtaining the power to do it.

Groups with less centrist political aspirations have either found it impossible to participate in tomorrow's elections or have decided to boycott them.

Quest for truth on Katyn



Families of some of the 15,000 Polish officers killed in 1940 in Katyn protesting outside the Soviet Embassy in Warsaw yesterday to press Moscow to reveal the truth. Soviet police are believed to have been responsible for the massacre, blamed by Moscow on the Nazis.

Judge who tried the Ceausescus shoots himself

From Tim Judah, Timisoara

The judge who condemned the Romanian tyrant, Nicolae Ceausescu, and his wife, Elena, to death has committed suicide as the trial of a batch of Securitate secret police and militia officers accused of complicity in genocide opened in Timisoara.

Major-General Gica Popa, the head of the military tribunal that condemned the Ceausescus, killed himself on Thursday, Mr Teofil Pop, the Justice Minister, said in Bucharest yesterday.

General Popa shot himself in the heart with a pistol in his office at the ministry and died in hospital two hours later. Mr Pop said the general, who had headed the Bucharest Regional Military Court since 1987, had suffered a severe nervous breakdown.

"It was nothing to do with the Ceausescu case, it was something personal," the minister added.

Although the identities of those on the panel of judges who tried the Ceausescus had never been made public, a source said that General Popa had been troubled by anonymous death threats, apparently from Ceausescu loyalists.

Mr Nicolae Dide, the government spokesman, confirmed that General Popa's voice was the one heard on the video-recording of the Ceausescus' December 25 trial.

In Timisoara, the 21 men in the dock are accused of involvement in the violent suppression of the demonstrations that sparked off last

December's Romanian revolution. They are all former Securitate or militia officers.

The defendants include Major-General Emil Macri, the former head of Economic Counter-Intelligence in the Securitate; Colonel Traian Sima, the former head of the Timis County Securitate; and Colonel Ion Debeleanu, the former head of the Timis County Militia.

The defendants are accused of genocide, aiding and abetting genocide, and also of taking 40 bodies from the Timisoara mortuary to be cremated in Bucharest. This was done in order to cover up the extent of the killings.

Other charges levelled against the accused include some less serious ones connected with attempts to suppress the revolution here.

Yesterday's proceedings lasted just over an hour and consisted solely of the prosecutor reading the charges. The trial resumes this morning.

● BUDAPEST: The Romanian Securitate is continuing to carry out actions against Hungary and most of its agents remain in place, according to Colonel Lajos Nagy, the head of Hungary's secret service (AFP reports).

In an interview yesterday he said: "Our information proves that almost without exception, the members of the Securitate are still in place. They are not just waiting." Asked if this meant they were still carrying out actions against Hungary, he said: "Yes".

Aoun defies the Church

Beirut rocked by battle

From A Correspondent, Beirut

General Michel Aoun yesterday defied an excommunication threat and launched a second attack on militia posts of his Christian rival, Mr Samir Geagea. Hand-to-hand fighting was reported on the streets of east Beirut.

At dawn the general's Lebanese Army troops resumed their assault on militia positions. They showered residential areas in the Christian sector with hundreds of shells, in total disregard of a threat by Patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir, head of the Maronite Church in Lebanon, to excommunicate the warring foes. General Aoun and Mr Geagea are both Maronite Christians.

"We warn whoever orders the firing and whoever carries it out that they would be excommunicated," said Patriarch Sfeir. "They will be expelled from the Church and prevented burial according to church traditions."

Police reported that army regulars under General Aoun launched a second offensive against hardline Christian Lebanese Forces militiamen at dawn, following Thursday's attack on the militia headquarters in Karantina on Beirut's waterfront. Yesterday's assault, again supported by tanks and artillery, came from two axes, in Nabaa and Sin el-Fil in central Beirut.

Christian militia sources said four army battalions and several companies of commandos, supported by tanks and heavy artillery fire, were involved in the battle.

A police spokesman said General Aoun's US-made M48 tanks, which advanced to the edges of Nabaa on Thursday, were "trying to shoot their way" across the densely populated district.

"They are applying scorched-earth combat tactics. The whole district is on fire," he said.

Mr Geagea's experienced street fighters, entrenched in the narrow alleys of Nabaa and Sin el-Fil, were confronting the tanks with armour-piercing rocket-propelled grenades and 106mm recoilless cannons, he said.

General Aoun was trying a flanking move to avoid storming through Ashrafieh — which has become a fortified garrison for Geagea's militia on the highest hill in Beirut", the police spokesman said.

Police reported heavy fighting at noon for control of a high-rise building that overlooks the main street separating Nabaa and Sin el-Fil.

The 12-storey building "repeatedly changed hands", police said. "Commando units of Aoun's troops stormed it at first light. Geagea's militiamen took it back in a swift assault around 10am. By noon the Army was re-attacking it."

Military sources in west Beirut said the Army travelled several hundred yards into militia territory in Sin el-Fil and Nabaa districts, but fell short of capturing the Lebanese Forces headquarters and their main stronghold in Ashrafieh.

Police reported that the Army forces had closed on the militia's main base in Karantina, one of the general's principal objectives, through neutral territory controlled by the Lebanese Armenians in Bourj Hammoud district.

Witnesses said the advances by the Army occurred without fighting and that General Aoun's forces had come within shooting distance of the main junction leading to

the "War Council", the militia's headquarters.

The breakthrough came after negotiations between Armenian army officers working under General Aoun and their community leaders, to allow them access to their strategic neighbourhoods, security sources said.

The Lebanese Red Cross said it had pulled out 12 bodies from the battlefield and evacuated 50 wounded. It said five other corpses were still on the streets in Nabaa and Sin el-Fil. On Thursday at least 75 people were killed and 200 wounded.

More than 800 people have been killed and 3,000 wounded in the bitter power struggle between General Aoun and Mr Geagea over supremacy in the Christian enclave in central Lebanon.

Residents in east Beirut spent Thursday night in underground shelters and woke yesterday morning to the sound of artillery shells and the smell of gunpowder and burning rubber from at least 50 fires that blazed in the city throughout the night.

Military sources said Thursday's thrust had been a "warning" to evacuate Beirut "before the final and sweeping attack to drive the militia out of the capital starts".

They added that General Aoun's troops, bent on disarming the militia, wanted to reconnoitre Lebanese Forces defences before they moved to seize their headquarters, inflicting the least casualties possible.

General Aoun, already suffering from a shortage of arms and ammunition, is eager to capture the port of Beirut adjacent to the militia headquarters, so he can import supplies.

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Paradise lost as pollution assaults California coast

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

Southern California temperatures were in the high eighties last week, which would normally send residents scurrying to the shore seeking relief from the heat. But the miles of beaches in Los Angeles were virtually deserted. The once-pristine white sands have become an ecological nightmare. There is big trouble in paradise.

First, a British Petroleum tanker leaked nearly 400,000 gallons of crude oil into the ocean off Huntington Beach, to the south of the city. Then, while volunteers and BP employees were labouring round the clock to clean up the sludge, a heavy winter storm caused drains to overflow and sent eight million gallons of raw sewage gushing into the ocean at Santa Monica, one of the most densely populated beach communities here.

To make matters worse, the thriving Los Angeles harbour was also closed for 24 hours on Friday, and there was talk of evacuating thousands of residents when a toxic chemical leak was spotted coming from a freighter.

So the surfers have stayed home with their boards, the swimmers are sticking to pools, and only the occasional volleyball player, roller skater or biker has ventured down to the sea to enjoy the sunlight. It is also no longer

safe to go out at night in many areas of this sprawling community, and it has nothing to do with escalating gang shootings.

As the city sleeps, helicopters fly in formation overhead, spraying thousands of gallons of insecticides into the atmosphere in an attempt to wipe out a pest known as the Medfly which feasts on the peaches, grapes and plums California exports. Its proliferation could mean death to the state's principal industry, agriculture.

Scientists disagree on the effects of the insecticide Malathion on people. State officials claim it is safe, though they advise bringing pets indoors and covering the paintwork on cars parked outside when the chemical is scattered at night. But Los Angeles residents — assaulted from all ecological angles — have taken to the streets wearing breathing masks and skeleton costumes, and carrying placards demanding that spraying be stopped.

In response to the pressure, Los Angeles city council voted to go to court seeking an injunction to force the state department of food and agriculture to stop spraying until its safety can be determined. Four neighbouring cities have followed suit.

TIMES DIARY

SIMON BARNES

As this is the column for the sporting polymath, it is time to salute Kate Noakes, artist in residence at Middlesbrough Football Club. Her exhibition of sculpture resulting from this post is on show from today until the end of the month at Middlesbrough Art Gallery. An uncompromising figure in a welder's mask, Noakes has produced a series of works in forged steel "trying to capture the physicality of football — not portraits of players but movement in an abstract form".

Her spell at Middlesbrough FC was funded by Northern Arts, and backed by other bodies including the club. "I could not have produced the work I did if they hadn't made me feel so much at home," says Noakes. "I was able to set up and work on the pitch without any problems. The players who have seen the work were rather bemused at first, but I think they have liked what they have seen."

Sad news from Julie Krone, one of America's top jockeys — she has won more than \$26 million in prize money — and an old friend of this column. She has not ridden since breaking her arm in a riding accident in November and must now have a bone graft operation. "When I found out I almost went into shock," said Krone, a volatile lady famous for winning a fist fight with a male jockey. She has lost a hot mount for the Kentucky Derby in May but hopes she will be back on the track in June. "The first day I can climb on a horse and leave the paddock again I'll be smiling from ear to ear," she said.

Male drivers always feel they have failed a crucial virility test when they are overtaken by a lorry, but let me reassure them. Next weekend, there will be an assault on the world speed record for a heavy goods vehicle. The driver, Yorkshireman Brian Garnet, a truck-racing driver by profession, says: "We are setting our sights on breaking the 130mph barrier. But it will all depend on conditions on the day." The attempt takes place on Pendine Sands in Wales (and no doubt informally by other drivers on the M25 throughout the preceding week). Garnet will drive a Lucas VAC Leyland Roadtrain called Gertie.

BARRY FANTONI



That reminds me, our Kensing has just been attributed to someone else

America's amazing one-legged schoolboy wrestler goes from strength to strength. Bill Flink has won 28 fights this season, without a single defeat, and is hoping to become champion of Stratford High School in Wisconsin. He aims to go on and win the state title "for my mom and dad". He fights on his knees, and exploits every advantage his unorthodox position can give him. Opponents reach around to grab his leg "and it just isn't there," says his coach, Cal Tackles. Flink lost his leg in a farming accident five years ago, when he was 12. Usually he wears an artificial limb, but he removes it to wrestle. "I want to win bad. I like the feeling," he says.

The most alluring invitation of the week came from Barry Hearn, the snooker and boxing manager, who gave me the chance to meet a fighter called Chris Eubank, who has some punch-up or other next week. The message said beguilingly: "People call him arrogant, but Chris will give a few minutes of his time to discuss this fight and future plans." I was unfortunately prevented from going by a subsequent engagement.

The obits failed to mention that the late Leslie Ames was responsible for the England cricket team's last series win over the West Indies in the Caribbean. It happened when he was managing the side captained by Colin Cowdrey in 1967-68. With four matches drawn, England won 1-0, thanks to a generous declaration by Gary Sobers. England were set 215 in two-and-a-half-quarter hours, and Cowdrey didn't fancy it. According to Ames, Cowdrey was nervous of Willie Rodriguez, the leg-spinner, "but I said we would never have a better opportunity". Cowdrey scored 71 in England's victory. Sobers was burned in effigy in Port of Spain, and Ames savoured the satisfaction of successful generalship.

At school we were always taught that "goodbye" really means "God be with you". Or once did. Now we have abbreviated the sentence and extinguished the sentiment. We have turned what once had meaning into a swift commonplace. The expression passed from full-length to a shorthand version, and finally to a usage which has forgotten even what the shorthand once stood for. It must be one of a score of such words.

Or actions. "Around the maypole frolics Miss Prism, Little knowing its symbolism." In Catalonia my nieces and nephews get their Christmas presents only after their grandparents have tapped on a log of wood — a perfunctory 20th-century reminder of some obscure pagan ceremony perhaps? No doubt historians will, likewise, know why Dame Jill Knight (or any other MP) has

The Government is said to be considering plans to "cap" the poll tax. This would be the ultimate absurdity in the tangled tale of local government reform. The purpose of introducing a flat-rate charge for local government services payable by every adult in the country is to make electors take responsibility for the things which local authorities do in their name.

If people want smaller classes in their local schools, or their dustbins emptied three times a week, and are prepared to pay accordingly, then let them vote in a council to do it. If, on the other hand, they are sceptical about the value that local representatives are giving for their money, then they should have the evidence and the incentive to vote them out. Either way, voters live with the consequences of their choice.

If it set a limit to local taxation, the Government would be denying the principle of local accountability. The logical next move would be to abolish local government altogether — something which advocates of central control over education appear to have recognized.

But, say the Government's political managers, the size of the changes which people are being

Rodney Lord, Economics Editor, cites Scotland's experience

Poll tax: just give it time

asked to face is proving deeply unpopular. Imposing a tax on people who did not pay one before was never going to be a vote-winner, and the local authorities are successfully pinning the blame on central government.

Even Conservative councils are having to levy embarrassingly high charges. There is a growing tide of concern on the Tory back benches that unless the Government acts to ameliorate the worst effects, the tax will be a serious handicap at the next election.

In any case, say the sceptics, the poll tax is not a good answer to the problem of local accountability. Every adult living in Coronation Street will now receive a bill (instead of just the heads of households), but this does not necessarily mean they will be any more aware of what the council is spending than they were before. Wives have always been aware of the overall financial burdens on the household.

And, as before, the poorest will have their poll tax paid for them. If the Government were able to start again, it might not choose to start from here. The attractions of the poll tax were simplicity, universality and visibility, but faced with the political disadvantages, ministers have already decided that parity of principle must be sacrificed to reliefs, safety nets and other devices to protect the citizen from too harsh an exposure to local accountability.

On that calculation the Government might have done better to swallow its rhetoric and opt for a local income tax, as the report of the committee of inquiry headed by Sir Frank Layfield recommended in 1976. But at this stage the Government does not have the option of starting again.

In any case, those who now say the Government should have kept the rates and abandoned any thought of local reform are forgetting the strength

of political pressure for change. In his closing words, Layfield referred to "many decades of uncertainty in the realm of local government finance". The Prime Minister herself first promised reform, then decided it was too difficult, then embraced the poll tax.

In Scotland, where the tax is already in operation, the political bitterness caused by its implementation was no greater than that caused by the last property revaluation for rating purposes. Indeed the revaluation in 1985, accompanied by public demonstrations and a torrent of complaint, made the Government decide that the poll tax would be the lesser evil.

A revaluation in England and Wales, now long overdue, would be even more painful, since revaluation in Scotland was carried out in three stages after 1973, whereas in England and Wales — where there is no obligation to revalue periodically — the whole burden of

adjustment would be felt at once. Worried Tories south of the border should look more closely at the Scottish experience. No one would pretend that the poll tax has been popular in Scotland. At the last election, when it was one of the main issues, the Tory vote fell from 38 per cent to 24 per cent; but the principal complaint was that Scotland was being used as a test-bed by an "English" Conservative government — which hardly applies in the case of the poll tax in England and Wales. More important, the Government was then (as now in England and Wales) at its point of maximum vulnerability, with the legislation passed but before the tax was in operation.

Scotland's experience suggests that in a year's time, the atmosphere will be rather different. North of the border, they are just coming to the end of the first year of the tax, which was introduced one year ahead of England and Wales. Despite dire

predictions about the difficulties of collecting the tax, 99 per cent of the population have registered, and revenue is running at about 80 per cent of target, which is slightly better than with the rates. While the opposition parties are still trying to make some mileage out of the issue, it is no longer the dominant theme in Scottish politics.

Local taxation rose sharply in Scotland as councils switched from one tax to the other, just as appears to be happening in England and Wales. Local authorities are well versed in making use of the changes which Whitehall forces on them, and the Government is having to revise its estimates of the average poll tax rate with embarrassing frequency. But in Scotland, increases in year two of the tax are proving much lower. One regional council, Grampian, is even reducing its levy.

The real touchstone of success for this fundamental change in local government finance will be whether it achieves what it originally set out to do: increase local accountability. The full-scale trial in Scotland is at too early a stage for any firm conclusions to be reached about that yet, but the regional council elections on May 3 may provide some interesting evidence.

Peter Brimelow

Value amid the junk

New York
We had not read a newspaper for three weeks when we boarded the New York flight in late spring 1986. But I felt a premonition when I picked up a copy of *Newsweek* magazine. "Greed on Wall Street" its cover blared.

I was reading quietly when my wife looked over, saw a picture, and exclaimed: "Oh, there's Dennis! What's he doing there?" She seized the magazine — and went into a classic triple-take, like a comic character in a silent movie. For Dennis was Dennis Levine, one of her colleagues at the Wall Street firm of Drexel Burnham Lambert, then at the very peak (as it turned out) of its fearsome power.

She had told me about Levine's extraordinary coolness under the intense pressure of deal-making. It was more remarkable than anyone had realized. Levine had been making quick trips abroad to trade stocks on inside information. He, the authorities and his fellow conspirators had just played out a byzantine climax of detection, pursuit and betrayal.

When Drexel Burnham finally collapsed last month, it was easy to forget that the much-publicized insider trading scandals of 1986, which affected several other Wall Street houses, actually had nothing to do with the rather technical securities law charges for which the firm was subsequently forced to pay a huge fine and to abandon its most famous asset, the financier Michael Milken. In fact, Milken has still not been convicted of anything. And the market in high-yielding "junk bonds" which he invented and allegedly manipulated shows distinct signs of continuing despite his departure.

But no financial institution can ultimately withstand the mob psychology of a bank run, which is in effect what finished Drexel. And the relentless hostility with which the authorities reacted to the firm is a notable stain on America's image as a plutocrats' paradise. Another example: the recent jailing of New York hotelier Leona Helmsley, although aged 69 and a first-time offender, over a tax dispute so proportionately minor that it would normally be viewed as non-criminal.

Drexel Burnham has been America's great financial eruption of the age. In the heat it generated, many things might well have melted. Any overall comment must be cautious.

But the human drama was equally fascinating. Whatever else can be said about Drexel, its employees were very able and harder than people outside Wall Street realize. When my wife first joined, she was disturbed to find executives scheduling not one but two successive business breakfasts. Hesitation about a morning meeting was greeted with the reproachful reminder that "it's 5am on The Coast" — where representatives of Milken's junk bond factory,

which he had moved to his native California, would be listening in on the speakerphone. As a former freelance writer, she began to feel uneasy that a sign on her forehead was flashing the scandalous secret that she had not been out of bed before 10am for several years.

The firm also, at least in its prime, developed an extraordinary *clan*. The sheer power of money to motivate, sometimes underestimated in the salaried professions, is always a source of explosive energy on Wall Street, which lives on fees and commissions. But there was more to Drexel Burnham. Its chief executive, Fred Joseph — in many ways as remarkable a character as Milken — not only seemed to believe the personnel management claptrap he had imbibed at the Harvard Business School but actually made it — or something — work.

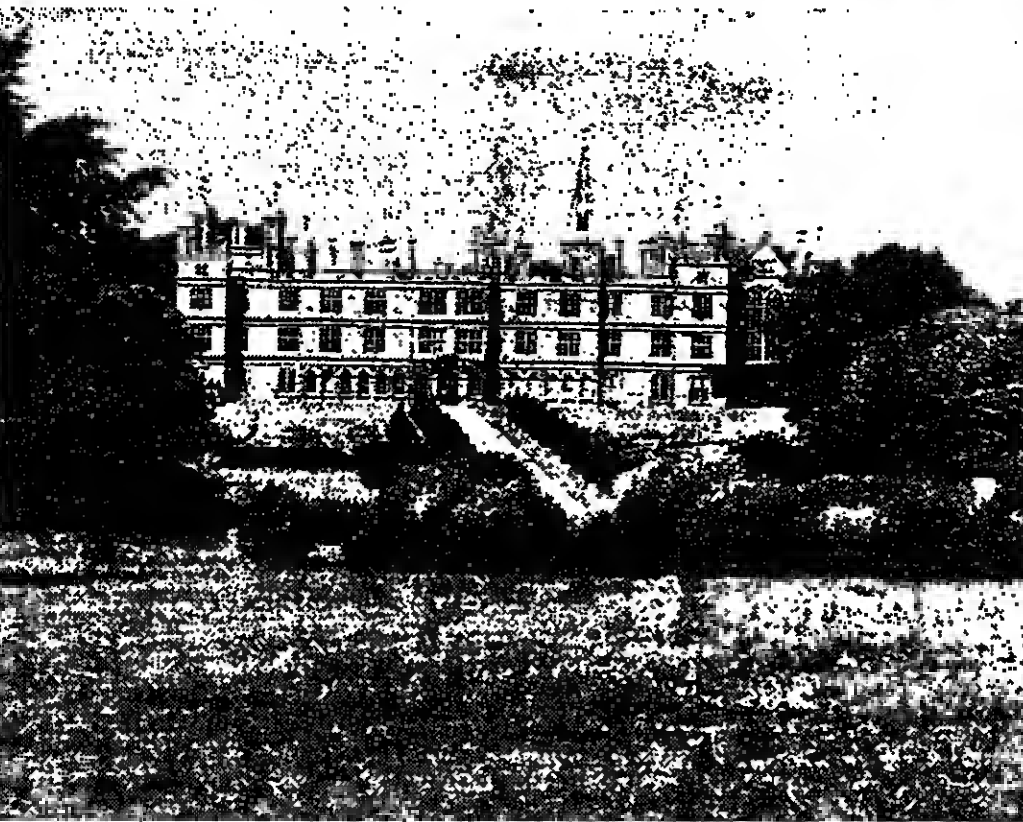
Thus it was several days before my wife realized that the great man was unpretentiously conducting the business of the firm from a desk only two or three from hers in the "bullpen" — the huge open office that is a feature of American financial institutions. Even at that time, some fairly hairy beasts roamed Drexel's corridors, but Joseph was somehow able to keep them from eating one another, at least in any generally demoralizing way, for a long time. By Wall Street standards, the firm was positively civilized — if only internally.

Some of Drexel's methods of building morale may not be transferable across the Atlantic. All Drexel retainers found themselves plastered with their employer's livery and slogans. As I write this, I am drinking herb tea from a mug emblazoned "DREXEL BURNHAM — NO GUTS, NO GLORY!" At one Christmas party, the firm's chairman, Robert Linton, got up wearing the stocking cap associated in New York with muggers and sang a skill entitled "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Prospector" satirizing Rudolph Giuliani, the law-enforcement official who had made Drexel his personal crusade.

None of this, of course, stayed off the horrible end. Now this little community is scattering to the winds, wheeling its possessions out of the office on castor chairs for want of trolleys, looking in groups or individually for new employers. At breakfast recently in Delmonico's, the Wall Street restaurant, no fewer than seven Drexel securities analysts could be seen animatedly trying to impress interviewers from seven different brokerage houses over their decaffeinated coffee.

In the 1960s, it was fashionable to worry that America's largest corporations formed an entrenched "technostructure" that could manipulate the economy. In the 1980s, Drexel-financed takeovers proved they were not entrenched. Somehow, no one was grateful.

The author is a senior editor of *Forbes* magazine.



Victim of insensitive planning: Burghley House will have a bypass running past its gate

Marcus Binney suggests a simple measure to preserve the parks of country houses from a rising tide of commercial development

increase in the asking price. The noble shell of the Elizabethan Clegg Hall stands in one of the finest stretches of unspoiled countryside to the east of Manchester. The walls are sound, and it could easily be restored as apartments by a building preservation trust. But now, we are told, Clegg Hall can be saved only if permission is given for a vast leisure park around it.

The massive increase in funds for road-building poses an equally grave threat to country house parks. One of the glories of Stamford — the finest town in the east of England — is the way it opens directly on to the great park of Burghley House. For generations, townspeople have had free access to this vast elysium. Now, the sudden sense of release one feels on entering the park is to be shattered by a new bypass, cutting through within yards of the gate and devised without thought for the beauty and history of the place.

Another recent proposal is for a motorway linking the M6 and the M56, which would cut right through the middle of the fine park of Mere Old Hall in Cheshire, the seat of the Brookes family since the Middle Ages. And at Reigate in Surrey, a new bypass proposed by the county council would separate the town from what has long been its park, the grounds of the Priory, sweeping down to a splendid lake.

Quite apart from providing the setting for some of our

greatest buildings, the parks of country houses are themselves important works of art. "What were known all over the world for a hundred years as English gardens", Lord Clark wrote, "were the most pervasive influence that England has ever had on the look of things in Europe."

The parks of country houses are often thought of as the creation of the 18th-century landscape movement, and considered worth preserving only if the names of Capability Brown or Humphry Repton can be attached to them. But many are much older, and historians are showing that ornamental lakes are in reality sometimes large mill ponds. "Parks there are in England, more than in all Europe," wrote Peter Heylyn in his *Cosmographie* in 1677.

The beauty of these parks lies in openness and extent, in their great expanses of grassland, uninterrupted by hedges or fences, where deer, cattle or sheep are free to roam at will. In contrast to the intimate domestic scale of much of the English countryside — of small fields, high hedges, narrow footpaths, streams and spinneys entangled in undergrowth — these parks introduce an epic element.

Historic buildings are protected by listing, and there is a whole range of statutory designations to protect the wider landscape: areas of outstanding

natural beauty, sites of special scientific interest, environmentally sensitive areas, green belt and national parks. But the Register of Parks and Gardens drawn up by English Heritage (and its equivalent in Scotland) has no legal force. In France, by contrast, there are *sites classés* as well as *monuments classés*, while the parks of Saint-Cloud, Sceaux, Rambouillet and Compiegne are protected in their own right.

In Britain, successive governments have shied away from listing gardens as they list buildings, for fear of the burden it would impose on owners whose resources are already stretched. But the need is not for a protective order imposing a duty on owners to maintain gardens, which would meet with understandably strong resistance even if it were accompanied by generous grants and tax reliefs.

The need is for Parliament to oblige planning authorities and government departments to pay special regard to the merits of properties on the English Heritage register when they are considering or drawing up proposals for developments or roads. This would be parallel to the special regard that local authorities are obliged to give to proposals affecting the character of conservation areas (under Section 277 (8) of the 1971 Planning Act).

It would not involve complicated legislation; it would simply bring an existing list within the framework of structure plans and planning applications. Chris Patten, the Environment Secretary, is said to be looking for quick, simple measures to show his green credentials. Protection for parks and gardens should be high on his list.

The author is president of SAVE Britain's Heritage.

Tappers, toppers and other rituals

to put on a top hat in the Chamber before making a point of order during a division.

My father always used to tap the end of his cigarette on the cigarette box, before lighting up — though the days when you needed to compact the tobacco were long gone. Genteel hostesses serving tea offer the milk in a milk jug, though it must be the better part of a century since the alternative was a churn.

The ritualizing of things, though as old as man, surely continues. What can we spot, passing stealthily from the real — today — to tomorrow's ritual?

A friend tells me that most Roman Catholic churches now

have sound amplification systems for the priest. The sight of Father O'Flaherty walking up to his microphone before the service and tapping it twice to check that it's working is as much part of the form of worship as the bells and incense. A friend speculates that 100 years from now (when microphones are obsolete and sound amplification automatic) an obligatory part of every priest's kit — along with chalice, napkin and other accoutrements — will be a small black bulbous object on a stick, which he will solemnly place before him, and tap, twice, before beginning Mass.

And should you, after Mass, take the family to a restaurant for



MATTHEW PARRIS

lunch, future generations will see a strange ritual when, the meal over, it is time to go. In those days, of course, no bill, money or plastic will change hands; each potato will have been charged

electronically to the customer's account as it is served. Nevertheless, Dad will signal departure by raising his left palm, open, in the air, pinching together the thumb and index finger of his right, and holding the right six inches from the left) moving the pinched hand across the palm, left to right, in a squiggling motion.

The aircraft emergency routine, demonstrated in the aisle by cabin crew before the plane takes off, is surely another huddling ritual. Hardly anyone watches any more, unless the air hostess is glamorous. You never get this routine on buses, which also have emergency exits and which are far more dangerous as a way of

travelling; but doubtless the insistence on this procedure was framed when accidents were more common. Now they are rare, but if your 747 does fly into the Atlantic, you are frankly a gonner, and most unlikely to find yourself sliding down those colourful plastic chutes (having first removed all dangerous items like necklaces and high heels), pulling your little toggle to inflate your life vest and blowing your whistle to attract attention.

Often, now, the instructions accompanying the demonstration are a tape recording; and the cabin crew go through the motions in weary, zombie-like fashion. As a performance, it

approaches a dance routine, and sometimes reminds me of a faded stripper.

So why not formalize the dance, and make it more entertaining? Why not bring on the air hostess wearing a little slip of a dress in the airline's livery, or the steward in silk boxer shorts, and let them do a dance based on the plane-crash instructions? The choreography I envisage is somewhat in the Egyptian style, with arms waved expressively, fingers stabbing in the direction of the emergency exits, and exaggerated head movements.

Everybody could applaud, and anyone who really wanted to know about the life raft could read the instructions.

Further examples abound; but, for the moment, *goodbye-haven't you — or "God be with you and have a nice day"*, as the quaint old saying went.



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NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM

These are difficult days for Israel. The tensions generated by the *intifada* have now been compounded by the continuing flow of immigrants from the Soviet Union. Yesterday's imposition of censorship on any items of news relating to the subject gives the measure of Israeli concern and anxiety.

There is no question of the newcomers not being welcome. Their right to be there is established by the Law of Return. Soviet Jewry constituted the last great reservoir of immigration, and the opening of the gates has long been a cherished aim of Israeli policy. It was, indeed, until recently a source of grievance in Jerusalem that 90 per cent of those leaving the Soviet Union wanted to settle not in Israel but the United States.

New American restrictions on immigration, however, together with a disturbing growth of anti-Semitism in Eastern Europe, has pushed up the numbers now seeking a new future in Israel to a level which is almost overwhelming. The long-term result should be a benefit to Israel. In the short term the high cost of absorption has led to heavy dependence on US aid.

According to long-established principle, newcomers are allowed to settle where they please, and a number of those from Russia have chosen a life in some of Israel's new settlements, including those in the territories occupied since the 1967 war. How many have chosen to do so is not known. Officially the Government dismisses it as a fraction, and denied encouraging them to do so. But which areas constitute the "occupied territories" is disputed — particularly on the outskirts of Jerusalem.

Resettlement has been a hotly-debated issue since the Prime Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, said earlier this year that the growing Soviet exodus required "the land of Israel, a large and strong Israel". Despite his denials, this was interpreted as meaning that he contemplated retaining the occupied territories to accommodate the increasing population. The Palestine Liberation Organization has already responded by declaring that it would regard the

wholesale population of the West Bank and Gaza with new Jewish immigrants as "an act of war", but even on the wildest estimates that has never been in question.

Mrs Thatcher is among those Western leaders who have spoken out against such a policy in Israel. More seriously from Jerusalem's point of view, the American Secretary of State, Mr James Baker, demanded a guarantee that the Israelis would halt all resettlement of immigrants in the territories. His strong statement has reawakened Israeli fears that US aid, now running at \$3 billion a year, would be cut if the Jerusalem Government refused to comply.

The Jerusalem Government's complaint that the United States' impatient intervention had made it much more difficult for the Cabinet to reach agreement on starting peace talks with Palestinians may sound like an attempt to shift the blame. None the less, Mr Shamir is in a difficult position, with his Likud Party split over his peace plan and Labour, junior partners in the Government coalition, threatening to pull out if he does not agree to Mr Baker's own proposals.

The Middle East peace process is immensely complicated. Two vicious terrorist attacks on Israelis in six months have swung opinion there towards the right, making compromise that much more difficult for Mr Shamir, who is not known for his flexibility. To win agreement on peace talks with Palestinians is hard enough. To get a consensus on a Palestinian delegation which includes Palestinian deportees and Arabs from East Jerusalem (as a frustrated Mr Baker has proposed) is still more difficult.

As this last great ingathering gains momentum, Israel needs American support more than ever. The White House therefore has an increasingly powerful lever to exact the concessions it sees as desirable. An undertaking that it does not contemplate large-scale new settlement in the disputed territories is a price Israel should be prepared to pay for progress towards peace and for help in absorbing its new countrymen from the Soviet Union.

AND THEN THERE WAS ONE

When the Nicaraguan people sent their revolutionary leaders packing last Sunday they also sharpened the solitude of a lonely man — Fidel Castro, the last relic of unreconstructed Leninism outside Albania and Asia. The Cuban leader has watched in disgust as the people of Eastern Europe have yielded to the allure of capitalism and cast off their "socialist gains". He has suffered in sorrow as his Soviet benefactors have abandoned old dogmas and set off into heretical lands.

In December, the Americans removed his useful ally Manuel Noriega of Panama and then last Sunday came proof that the anti-communist wolf had leaped the Atlantic and was padding around the Caribbean back yard. Apart from Cuba, Nicaragua was the only surviving remnant of tropical Marxism and, despite some recent estrangement, it was the one dearest to Dr Castro's heart.

When they shot their way to power in 1979, the Sandinistas were Fidel's boys. He had inspired them and trained them and armed them. In Fidel's view, President Daniel Ortega had only himself to blame for his defeat. "You chose to take the revolution on to the bourgeois' territory and you lost", he was reported to have shouted at Señor Ortega in an angry telephone call on Monday.

Consulting his people via the ballot box is the last thing Dr Castro plans for Cuba. The faster communism withers around the planet, the further he drives his country into harsh isolation. Last month, he decided it was time to respond to the worldwide "crisis of socialism" with what were called profound reforms. This, it turned out, meant calling a party congress for 1991 with the task of "making more perfect" the Leninist control of the State.

In southern Florida, home to several hundred thousands Cuban exiles, they are so sure that Dr Castro's regime is disintegrating

that many have put their houses up for sale. This could be premature. He may well be turning into the Ceausescu of the Caribbean, but Dr Castro still enjoys a degree of affection and loyalty denied to the former party dictators of Europe.

Signs of discontent are manifest, for all that. There was the Stalinist show trial last summer which ended with the execution of General Arnaldo Ochoa, a hero from the Angolan war, and the shooting or jailing of half a dozen other officers. Though he was convicted of drug trafficking, most Cubans took Ochoa's trial as evidence of high-level opposition to the rule of Fidel and his brother Raul, his most trusted lieutenant.

The security forces are receiving new riot control equipment to cope with the expected reaction to deeper penury. This is inevitable, given the Soviet reluctance to continue paying five billion dollars a year to keep Dr Castro's paradise afloat. Mr Gorbachev, who tired of Dr Castro's ranting on a visit to Havana last year, has told him that Cuba must start earning its keep — something unlikely so long as its leader rejects all free market reforms.

For the United States, Dr Castro is still a threat. He is arming guerrillas in El Salvador and elsewhere and he has just taken delivery of new Soviet MiG-29 warplanes. The Bush Administration is content to wait for the regime to collapse before making any move to end the island's quarantine. Once the darling of the left around the hemisphere, Fidel is now regarded even by Latin intellectuals as an eccentric fossil.

Dr Castro is said by visitors to be growing bitter and despondent about his place in history. He probably will not listen, but his friends might try suggesting again that he hold a plebiscite of the kind that eased General Pinochet from power in Chile. If, as likely, he lost, he could at least depart in dignity.

LEAD KINDLY LIGHT

This year marks the centenary of the death of John Henry Newman, one of the most eminent of all the great Victorians. He is being remembered far and wide: in his two cities, Birmingham and Oxford; his two colleges, Oriel and Trinity; his two churches, the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church; and in a variety of lesser institutions with which he was associated, usually by having started them. He seems by now to belong to everyone, and the National Portrait Gallery has this week paid its own tribute by opening an exhibition in his honour.

There is already a whole international industry in Newman doctoral theses, no doubt partly explained by the sheer pleasure of exploring his anglican prose. Seldom has the English language been deployed so lucidly to such rigorous intellectual purpose.

A subtle difference exists between an artificial anniversary and a real one. The artificial variety is dreamt up to promote contemporary causes. A real anniversary, in which category it would be right to put that of Newman, refuses to allow itself to be used for such ulterior purposes. It responds to a public interest which already exists independently of the calendar.

What then does Cardinal Newman mean today? What he was first famous for was the launching of a movement to restore Tradition to the Church of England, in which Church his heirs keep up a good fight which is still neither won nor lost. He wanted to make it a truer Church, but his personal search was for the true Church, so he became famous — for a while infamous — for his conversion from Anglicanism to Rome.

The contemporary relevance of his startling transfer of allegiance has been somewhat diminished by the modern ecumenical movement, where the hostilities over which Church

is truest have been superseded. But that revolution in relationships was itself largely the result of the Second Vatican Council, 1962-65, which has frequently been referred to as Newman's Council because of the way so many of his insights at last found their mark. The modern Roman Catholic Church has become increasingly aware how much it owes to one 19th-century Englishman, who transplanted his Oxford Anglican mind into a Roman Catholic soil with astonishingly fertile consequences.

Newman next became famous as the object of Charles Kingsley's insouciant barbs, and for his defence of himself in his great *Apologia*, which was the great literary sensation of its time. From then on he was rarely out of the public eye, and towards the end he became famous as a Cardinal, which was no mere *ex officio* elevation but a personal tribute of Pope Leo XIII. He is famous still, not least for his hymns *Lead Kindly Light* and *Praise to the Holy in the height*, which comes from his epic poem, later set by Elgar, *The Dream of Gerontius*.

He died on August 11, 1890, the hundredth anniversary of which will mark the culmination of this Newman year, and his influence does not diminish even now. His *Idea of a University* illuminates the contemporary debate over the purposes of academic education as a beacon flashing out a piercing message — "There is a knowledge which is desirable, though nothing come of it, as being of itself a treasure, and a sufficient remuneration of years of labour." It may be a little out of fashion, though its time will come again. And so, it may be hoped, will favour return to Newman's "idea of a gentleman" — "It is almost a definition of a gentleman to say that he is one who never inflicts pain."

Lone Rangers in the inner-city

From the President of the Royal Town Planning Institute

Sir, The Prime Minister's commitment to a private and public-sector partnership in the Action for Cities campaign (report, March 1) is welcome. Unfortunately, she has in mind the kind of partnership which existed between the Lone Ranger and Tonto.

The private sector plays the Lone Ranger — a (well-fed) hero on a white horse given more public money to spend on silver bullets. The public sector is Tonto — the sidekick who repeatedly gets into trouble and has to be rescued by our hero.

Whilst more Government cash goes to the private sector, local authorities are now being forced to put a large proportion of their capital receipts into debt redemption rather than new schemes. This is the economics of yesterday, not of the entrepreneurial nineties.

As inner-city renewal up and down the country has shown, an effective partnership requires the public sector to provide the context, capacity and infrastructure — or doing the job where the private sector can't — which will encourage the private sector to invest in the high-risk, less attractive parts of our cities where growth is most needed.

The Government should implement the Audit Commission's recommendation of local regeneration strategies drawn up by local authorities in partnership with the private sector and the community. Local authority capital spending would then be free of unnecessary restrictions where it is implementing regeneration strategy. In this way, we can move towards a co-ordinated approach and away from the fragmentation which the Audit Commission criticised.

Our inner cities require planning and true partnership; they cannot be left entirely to the Lone Rangers.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN THOMPSON,
President,
The Royal Town Planning Institute,
26 Portland Place, W1,
March 1.

TV and football

From Sir John Nicholas
Sir, You report today (March 2) on your sports pages that the international football authorities are considering altering the structure of games in a coming competition to break the game into four quarters to provide more intervals for TV advertising.

I can't make out why this idea should offend me so much. I'm not all that keen on TV soccer but I nevertheless have a feeling that we are facing yet another great shove down the dizzy slope of triviality.

If the idea had come from the players complaining about the strain of the game it would have been different. But the prospect that a well-founded and long-standing pattern should be thrown away for advertising convenience seems wrong.

No doubt those who arrange TV contracts are likely to say that the sport needs the money and that we will all benefit in some unspecified way. But then I think that was where the dizzy slope began.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN NICHOLLS,
Dove Barn,
Old Coast Road,
Ormesby St Margaret,
Norfolk
March 2.

Cricketing tribute

From Canon Eric James
Sir, The death of L. E. G. Ames, the Kent and England cricketer (Obituaries, February 28), will stir many a grateful memory. For the late Bishop John Robinson, for instance, the Canterbury Cricket Week was a kind of secular "Holy Week", with people like Ames and Frank Woolley as the "holy ones".

As a schoolboy at Marlborough, John Robinson produced what was virtually his first book (nearly a quarter of a century before *Honest to God*) — an analysis of Ames's career, from 1926-1939, occupying 150 pages. His scores and strokes are meticulously recorded and analysed by "spiders". The record is complete with scorecards and illustrations.

This particular week seems an appropriate time to give thanks not only for L. E. G. Ames but for the game of cricket, to which he made such a signal contribution. Yours sincerely,
ERIC JAMES,
11 Penny Crescent,
Kennington, SE11,
February 28.

Christ in history

From the Reverend Tony Highton

Sir, Clifford Longley ("Relentless Durham Inquisition", February 28) is mistaken to think that the Bishop of Durham was subjected to a "second trial" at the recent General Synod. My amendment provided the synod for the first time with a motion effectively calling for his resignation. The fact that it was rejected will add to the disillusionment, hurt and betrayal felt by thousands of Christians.

Christianity is essentially based on the historical events of Christ's birth, life, death, empty tomb, etc. If any of these events did not occur historically then belief in the incarnation, atonement and Resurrection becomes untenable. The whole Christ-event is an invasion

Motorway plan for Twyford Down

From the Director of the British Road Federation

Sir, Your suggestion ("Motorway Madness", February 28) that the transport secretary has made the wrong decision over M3 Twyford Down is open to question on at least two counts.

This is not the first time that similar indignation has been expressed over the anticipated environmental impact of major road developments. I recall the M40 at the Chiltern escarpment, the M62 in the Pennines, the M6 in Cumbria and M25 in the Darenth Valley.

About the latter the Countryside Commission said publicly that "the M25 would be an unpleasantly alien element in an unspoilt area". Ten years later this screaming outrage has been shown to be totally unjustified and the Darenth Valley is a better place.

Nor is cost the only criterion on which the M3 decision has been reached. To quote from the inspector's report — and he recommended against the tunnel after two separate public inquiries:

... on the basis of evidence presented at these inquiries, the environmental superiority of a major tunnel alternative is outweighed by the combined effects of substantially higher capital costs and worse economic performance, a much delayed opening date, the implications of adverse traffic distribution on Winchester and St Cross, the provision of large sites for soil disposal and disruption to BR, which by comparison with the Department's proposals are not justified.

He went on to say that the Department's scheme: ... strikes the most favourable balance of all routes to the interests of people, the wider countryside, the environment and Winchester.

The Government has pursued fully its obligation to consult, even to the extent of a second inquiry — with further delay — to allow Countryside Commission and English Heritage to appear.

At last a conclusion has been reached jointly by the secretaries of state for the environment and for transport. Let us have an end to delay and get on with an urgently needed piece of road. On past evidence, the gloom will be proved to be quite unjustified.

Yours faithfully,
PETER J. WITT, Director,
British Road Federation Limited,
Pillar House,
194-202 Old Kent Road, SE1,
March 1.

Channel tunnel issues

From the Editor of Railway Gazette International

Sir, Imagine the laurels awaiting the inventor of a transport system that could carry, without a single death, the passenger-miles achieved by all the cars on Britain's roads in three years. Look no further — it has been done already by Japan's bullet trains (which spend a third of their time in tunnels) and the French TGV (*train de grande vitesse*).

Now conceive, if you can, a new kind of motorway on which 300 million vehicle-miles could be run, again without a fatal accident. Amazingly, that exists too, this time as car-carrying trains through the Alpine tunnels.

Put them together and you have a fair approximation of the Channel tunnel, of which Stephen Plowden said (article, February

28) "many more people could die in a serious accident... than were killed at Zebrugges or King's Cross". Well, lots of nasty things can happen in this uncertain world, but the best way to avoid them is to use systems with a good safety record. Yet, without quoting a single safety statistic, Plowden says we should stop building the tunnel and "safety is the overriding issue".

If carrying people in their cars through long railway tunnels is so dangerous, where are the corpses? Our roads produce 100 a week regular as clockwork, but nobody suggests shutting them down — presumably because killing people in ones or twos doesn't constitute a disaster.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD HOPE, Editor,
Railway Gazette International,
Quadrant House,
Sutton, Surrey.

many within the Establishment in promoting industry and investment and the failure of Thatcherite managers to effect a durable transition to an alternative, cooperative industrial relations culture. His readiness to blame in an entirely imprecise, generalising way, whole sections of society for arguable decline seems indeed more symptomatic of the problem than of the creativity that might produce answers.

Yours faithfully,
PETER WOOD,
Newbold Farm,
Duntisbourne Abbots,
Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

From Mr Jack Triggs
Sir, A recent report in *The Times* (February 26) concerning the expected profits from the sale of fragments from the Berlin Wall, reminds me of the sale (on a much smaller scale, but with great ingenuity) of parts of another German wall in June, 1944.

An elderly private soldier — the Colonel's batman — in a battalion of my regiment that landed as part of a beach group on D-Day, discovered the remains of a German pillbox with a hole in one wall, closely resembling a ticket box-office window.

On June 8, the batman was ensconced at the window with an ample supply of small concrete pieces and a notice stating, "Pieces of Hitler's original Western Wall, 2s.6d." For two days there was a small queue of teenage sailors, mostly American from the landing craft arriving on each tide, happily handing over their half crowns.

The Colonel then instructed me to close the "shop", but the batman made over £250.

Yours faithfully,
JACK TRIGGS,
68 Campden Hill Court,
Campden Hill Road, W8,
February 28.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01782) 5046.

Community care of mentally ill

From Professor Robert Bluglass

Sir, Psychiatric patients are increasingly to be cared for by a network of services in the community rather than in hospital. On February 27 (early editions) you reported the concern expressed by Judge Lymbury, QC, at the Central Criminal Court about the release from hospital of patients who rely on medication.

This is a concern shared by many professionals who are aware of the problems in management, and occasionally risk, that can arise when such patients cease to take the drugs prescribed for them, which are crucial for their continued community care.

At the present time, such patients cannot be recalled to hospital compulsorily, should they refuse an invitation to be admitted voluntarily, until their mental state has deteriorated seriously. A number of proposals have been made to change the Mental Health Act 1983, for instance, to introduce a new form of "community care order" and to extend the powers of guardianship for psychiatric patients. However, compulsory treatment in the community is in many ways unsatisfactory and is an intrusion upon civil rights, whether by treatment order or by changing guardianship.

I suggest that the solution which would be applicable to most patients in this category would be to amend the Act to allow the discharge of appropriate patients, with the condition that they would continue to be subject to recall to a hospital if the patient failed to take medication. This would be a form of conditional discharge along similar lines to that already allowed for patients on restriction orders who are discharged by a Mental Health Review Tribunal.

A patient subject to such a qualified discharge should be allowed a periodic application to have his case reviewed by a tribunal.

Yours faithfully,
R. S. BLUGLASS,
The University of Birmingham,
Department of Psychiatry,
Resid Clinic,
Bristol Road South,
Rushy, Rednal,
Birmingham,
February 28.

S Africa's poor whites

From Mr D. G. Evans

Sir, Despite extensive attention to the developments in South Africa, the important issue of the "poor whites" is seldom mentioned.

Forming the main support for the right-wing parties, they derive from an Afrikaner background occupying poorly paid jobs in the Civil Service, police, railways, Post Office and similar Government organisations, making up half of the white work-force in the country.

They are the most vulnerable as job reservation disappears and Asian, Coloured and, in due course, Bantu blacks begin to threaten their livelihood. They live in down-town areas, where the Group Areas Act fails to operate, and they have no other land in which to take refuge.

South Africa is a diverse country, with a dozen or more black ethnic groups. It is unfortunately hardly appreciated that the whites are equally diverse, with the poor whites occupying an important lagged group.

Yours faithfully,
D. G. EVANS,
46 Layton's Lane,
Sunderby-on-Thames,
Middlesex,
February 26.

Fight against drugs

From Mr Philip F. Nind

Sir, The drugs industry possesses massive international organisations with elaborate distribution networks and money laundering facilities across national frontiers on a scale greater even than those of the large multinational corporations. It cares nothing for the evil it produces, and despite the valiant efforts of some individual drug enforcement agencies it thumps its nose at governments and at national boundaries.

Surely there is a case now for every national government to have an independent drugs department and for every Cabinet senior minister for drugs? Let the EC set the ball rolling for Europe with its drugs ministers meeting regularly in the same way that its foreign ministers (and others) have done hitherto.

Yours sincerely,
PHILIP F. NIND,
The White House,
Abinger Common, Surrey,
February 26.

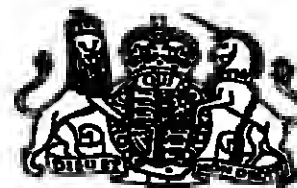
Ghost platform

From Mr John Wade

Sir, My late father always considered it to be discourteous to leave a wireless set running in an empty room, "Letting the man talk with nobody to listen to him".

This morning, as my train wended its erratic way through the City, we crawled through the deserted and silent Mansion House station. As we did so we could all hear the recorded platform announcement about delays. Who was he talking to? Is there life down there as we know it?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WADE,
Savage Club,
9 Fitzmaurice Place,
Berkeley Square, W1,
February 20.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 2: The Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Colonel of the Edinburgh and Heriot-Watt Universities Officers Training Corps, this evening attended a dinner with the Honorary Colonels of the Lowlands at the Officers Mess, 71 (Scottish) Engineer Regiment (V), 51 Yorkhill Parade, Glasgow.
His Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the City of Glasgow (Mrs Susan Baird, the Right Hon Lord Provost).
Major Sir Guy Acland, Bt, was in attendance.
By Command of The Queen, the Baroness Blatch (Baroness of Winton) was present at Heathrow Airport, London this evening upon the departure of the Governor-General of Papua New Guinea and Lady Eri and bade farewell to Her Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.
March 2: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh visited Glasgow today and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the City of Glasgow (Mrs Susan Baird, the Right Hon Lord Provost).
The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were accompanied by James Jennings (Convener, Strathclyde Regional Council).
Her Majesty and His Royal Highness drove to the King's Theatre and witnessed the handover of the title of "European City of Culture 1990" from the Mayor of Paris (Monsieur Jacques Chirac) to the Lord Provost.
The Duke of Edinburgh, with the Duke of Edinburgh, opened the renovated McLellan Galleries, unveiled a commemorative plaque and toured the British Art Show.
Subsequently Her Majesty with His Royal Highness, honoured the Lord Provost and her presence at lunch in the City Chambers.
In the afternoon The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh attended a performance at the Citizens Theatre.
The Secretary of State for Scotland (The Right Hon Malcolm Rifkind, MP), the Count-

ess of Airlee, Sir Robert Fellowes and Major Sir Guy Acland, Bt were in attendance.
The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended a reception hosted by the Right Hon Richard and Lucie, MP (Minister for the Arts) at the Albany Hotel, Glasgow.
His Royal Highness later attended an International Gala Evening at the Theatre Royal, followed by a Gala Supper at the Forum Hotel, Glasgow.
The Duke of Edinburgh was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the City of Glasgow (Mrs Susan Baird, the Right Hon Lord Provost).
Major Sir Guy Acland, Bt was in attendance.
The Prince Edward, Chairman of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Special Projects Group, this evening attended a reception, which included presentation as part of the National Conference of Special Projects at the Low Wood Hotel, Windermere.
His Royal Highness was received by Colonel R H Hodgson (Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Cumbria).
Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer was in attendance.
The Princess Royal visited Sheffield today and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for South Yorkshire (Lieutenant-Colonel Hugh Neill).
Her Royal Highness, Patron, Universiade '91, visited the World Student Games' Topping Ceremony, at Ponds Forge, Sheffield.
In the afternoon The Princess Royal opened the Age Concern Centre, Division Street, Sheffield.
Afterwards Her Royal Highness visited the Young Men's Christian Association, Broomhall Road, Sheffield.
Subsequently The Princess Royal, President, visited the Fund's shop in Crookes Road, Broomhill, Sheffield.
Mrs Malcolm Wallace was in attendance.
KENSINGTON PALACE
March 2: The Princess of Wales visited the Metropolitan Police Driving School, Peel Centre, Aerodrome Road, NW9.
The Hon Mrs Vivian Baring and Mr Richard Arbiter were in attendance.
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Special Projects Group, will visit the Chelsea Mass College of Education, Ambleside, at 1.10; and the Phoenix Centre, Windermere, at 3.25.
The Princess Royal, as President of the Royal Yachting Association, will open the Sailing Boat '90 RYA National Dinghy Show at Crystal Palace, at 10.30.
The Duke of Edinburgh, as Patron of the Scottish Rugby Union, will attend the Wales v Scotland match at Cardiff Arms Park at 2.00.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as President of the British Amateur Athletic Board, will present the BAAB Trophies at the City Chambers, Glasgow, at 11.30; and will open the twenty-first European Indoor Athletic Championships at the Kelvin Hall International Sports Arena at 2.00.
Prince Edward, as Chairman of

Memorial service

Major-General David Appleby a service of thanksgiving for the life of Major-General David Appleby was held at St Sepulchre-without-Newgate on Thursday. The Rev G.H. Robbia, Deputy Chaplain General, officiated and Coloeat Patrick Stirling, Deputy Colonel of the City of London Regiment of Fusiliers, read from the works of Canoe Henry Scott Holland, Major-General D.H.D. Selwood, Director of Army Legal Services, also representing the Coloeat Commandants of the Army Legal Corps, read the lesson and Brigadier M.H.F. Clarke, Army Legal Corps, gave an address. Among those present were:

Luncheons

HM Government
The Hon Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, and Mrs Hurd were hosts at a luncheon given yesterday by Her Majesty's Government at Carlton Gardens to bid farewell to the High Commissioner for India and Shri Mani Kadambari Rasgotra.
British Council
Sir Richard Francis, Director-General of the British Council,

was host yesterday at a luncheon held at 10, Spring Gardens in honour of the Hon Sir Douglas Hurd, Minister of Population Welfare of Pakistan.

St Anne's School, Windermere

Mr John Bankham, Director General of the CBI, was the principal guest at St Anne's School, on Friday evening. He was welcomed by Mr Michael Hawkins, Headmaster.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.P. Young and Miss A.C.S. Brown
The engagement is announced between Mark, younger son of the late Mr Peter Young and the Hon Mrs Young, of Orchard House, London, and Miss A.C.S. Brown, daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Brown, of Horsham, West Sussex.
Mr W.H. Holbeck and Miss M.F.U. Gaskell
The engagement is announced between William, second son of Mr and Mrs Robert Holbeck, of Mayford, Woking, Surrey, and Miss M.F.U. Gaskell, daughter of Dr and Mrs Philip Bowen, of Horsham, West Sussex.
Mr W.H. Holbeck and Miss M.F.U. Gaskell
The engagement is announced between William, second son of Mr and Mrs Robert Holbeck, of Mayford, Woking, Surrey, and Miss M.F.U. Gaskell, daughter of Dr and Mrs Philip Bowen, of Horsham, West Sussex.
Mr J.D. Hughes and Miss K.M. Dyer
The engagement is announced between Patrick, second son of Mr Peter Hughes, of Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire, and Miss K.M. Dyer, daughter of Mr and Mrs M.C. Hughes, of Langley, Berkshire, and Kate, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Graham Dyer, of Three Mile Cross, Berkshire.
Mr P.J.F. May and Miss S.A. King
The engagement is announced between Christopher, eldest son of Mr and Mrs E.W.B. Proud, of Heathfield, E Sussex, and Miss S.A. King, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.J. Luck and the late Mrs Heather Luck, of Winkfield, Berkshire.
Mr E.S.W. Atherton and Mrs E.C. Williamson
Mr Eric Atherton, of Harrow, and Mrs Caroline Williamson, also of Harrow, were married at the Civic Centre, Harrow, yesterday. The reception will be in the summer.
Mr P.R.G. Chalmers and Miss J.G. Posthumus
The engagement is announced between Patrick, only son of Mrs Lavinia Chalmers, of Nerja, and the late Mr Patrick Chalmers, of Aldbar, Angus, and Josien, youngest daughter of Mr Henk Posthumus, and the late Mrs Abida Posthumus, of Marum, Holland.

Marriage

Mr E.S.W. Atherton and Mrs E.C. Williamson
Mr Eric Atherton, of Harrow, and Mrs Caroline Williamson, also of Harrow, were married at the Civic Centre, Harrow, yesterday. The reception will be in the summer.

OBITUARIES

DAVID GOLDFARB

Geneticist's seven year battle to leave Russia



a graduate of the state medical school in Moscow.

Dr David Goldfarb, a Soviet Jewish geneticist who died of heart failure on February 24 at the age of 71, emigrated to America with the aid of Armand Hammer, the international businessman, after a seven year battle to leave Russia.

Goldfarb had been in Bethesda, Maryland, since December as a visiting scholar at the National Institute of Health.

He was suffering from diabetes and heart disease before he was granted permission to leave Moscow in October, 1986. Goldfarb had been in hospital for some time and was strapped to a reclining chair when he and his wife boarded Hammer's private jet.

Their daughter, Olga, and her two daughters were left behind, but the family say that Olga is now free to leave the Soviet Union and expects to emigrate with her daughters in May, fulfilling her father's wish. His son, Alex, a microbiologist, emigrated in 1975 and is now an Assistant Professor at Columbia University.

In 1978, David Goldfarb resigned as head of the laboratory of molecular genetics of bacteria, operated by the Soviet Academy of Sciences. He had done pioneering work in genetics after the downfall of Tofirm D. Lysenko, the agronomist whose school of scientists under Stalin disputed accepted theories of heredity and forced mainstream geneticists into the background.

Goldfarb, who was born in Polonnoe in the Ukraine, was

assume increasingly important scientific posts.

Goldfarb and his wife, Cecilia, sought to join their son in the United States in the late 1970s but were denied permission to leave and their fight to emigrate turned into an international human rights case.

Though Dobrynin initially said that Goldfarb's emigration would be impossible, Hammer was told next day he could take Goldfarb and his wife with him when he left on October 16. Hammer believed Mikhail S. Gorbachev had approved the release.

ROGER CLIFFORD

Presenting stars in the West End theatre

Roger Clifford, a well-known figure in London's West End theatre in the Sixties and Seventies, has died in Laguna, California, after a stroke. He was 52.

After a successful career in public relations he went into theatrical management at the Albany Theatre in 1973, presenting Dorothy Tutin in *J. M. Barrie's What Every Woman Knows*. This was followed by two musicals, *Happy As A Sandbag* and *Leave It to Heaven*, followed by a revival of Jean Anouilh's *Arlequin*, starring Vincent Price and Coral Browne. His most distinguished accomplishment was to have devised, directed and presented *Edith*

Evans and Friends - a collection of poems and excerpts from Dame Edith's most successful roles worked into a one-woman show, which proved to be her farewell appearance on the stage. This was seen first at the Haymarket Theatre in 1974, later went on tour and returned to the Phoenix.

Born on September 27, 1938, in Bristol, Roger Clifford entered Bristol University in 1956. After graduating he came to London and started in the pop industry, promoting such stars as Tommy Steele and Lonnie Donegan. He then worked with Harold Fielding on *Charlie Girl* before setting up in

business on his own.

He was one of the most tactful and soft-spoken PR men. Magnificent results were obtained with the minimum of fuss and the maximum of good manners. He dealt successfully with the temperaments of Ginger Rogers, Lauren Bacall and Marlene Dietrich, as well as the more co-operative Deborah Kerr and Doreen Green and Cicely Courtneidge. He even managed to tame Zsa Zsa Gabor.

He promoted many of the biggest London productions of his time, but when he went into production on his own, in spite of good taste and insis-

tence on quality, he did not have the financial success for which he had hoped. When the crunch came he showed enormous courage and resilience, but, having always said that PR was not a career that could be sustained for a lifetime, he had no thought of starting again in that field.

So in 1982 he decided to leave London for California and a very different life - a reaction against the obligations and responsibilities of the theatre. There he picked up jobs where he could, mostly cooking dinners for well-heeled Californians - happy in the sun with his anonymity.

Clifford Longley

What hope for wealth creators?

The new director general of the Institute of Directors, Mr Peter Morgan, was venting a widely spread sense of frustration in business circles when he included the church in his list of those establishment institutions which were hostile to the enterprise culture of wealth creation.

In his keynote speech to the institute's annual convention in the Albert Hall this week, he recalled some remarks of the Bishop of Peterborough, the Right Rev William Westwood, who had said that the church had "no message" for those who were successful because it was too preoccupied with the poor. The church and other pillars of middle class establishment values, Mr Morgan said, regarded the creation of wealth as "mucky and squalid".

The commitment of the church in Britain to the poor is rather more apparent than real, as the Bishop of Peterborough well knows. The Church Commissioners possess an enormous treasury of inherited wealth, from which the clergy are paid. Church of England church-goers are among the more prosperous members of the community; and

This confused attitude has become thoroughly mixed up with a whole bundle of older cultural and class prejudices towards business and industry, represented by the view that "trade" was no fit occupation for a gentleman. Given that those in trade are generally interested in the creation of wealth - wealth for themselves in particular - it is the Church of England seems to have concluded, no fit occupation for a Christian either.

The confusion is made worse by a disregard for the Old Testament and a selective reading of the New - the poor are blessed, the rich cannot pass through the eye of a needle, and no-one can worship God and Mammon. First-century Jewish society was by no means hostile to what is now called wealth creation, however, nor to the possession of it; and it cannot be shown that Jesus repudiated that in principle. He warned of the spiritual dangers, just as he warned of the dangers of virtually every other condition of life.

The Christian "message" to the success-fair that the Bishop of Peterborough would like to see, if Mr Morgan has interpreted him correctly, would be a message of congratulation, of "well done, thou good and faithful servant". In so far as there is any implied message from the Church of England in fact, it is of the opposite kind - that if one must have wealth at all it is better to have inherited it than to have made it oneself, and success in business is slightly indecent as if every pound in a businessman's pocket might have been snatched from a single mother's meagre grocery purse.

Neither approach meets the need. Businessmen and industrialists are necessary, and the church must have a message for them better than "go to hell". Congratulations, on the other hand, are hardly what the Gospel is about, in this or any other connection. Neither approach has any spiritual depth to it.

A Christian attitude to wealth can only flow from a Christian attitude to life, which in turn can only flow from a Christian attitude to death. The metaphor of dying "to self" is used repeatedly in the Gospels, coupled with rising again "to new life". It refers not only to the moment of actual death, but to the spiritual turning points in life. Prior to this dying and rising transformation experience, the soul was in bondage to sin; afterwards, it is free. Each of those states has a characteristic attitude to possessions. Before, they dominated life; after, they are merely useful. Before, a man would do almost anything to hold on to what is his; after, he can take it or

leave it. In this sense, therefore, before - he worshipped Mammon; after - he worshipped God. But it does not follow that his bank manager would notice anything different, before and after. The famous challenge to the rich young man to give away all he possessed would have had no point to it if he cared little whether he did or not. Jesus perceived a man with a fanatical attachment to what was his.

A man should be able to give everything away and think nothing of it; but it does not follow that he is obliged to do so. The necessity applies only in the particular case where that action distinctly marks the "death to self" which the Gospel demands. In other cases the action could be different because the fatal attachment could be different - willingness to abandon an agreeable career, willingness (in the case of celibacy) to forego sex, willingness to lose the approval of family and friends; even, conceivably, the willingness to give up a state of poverty. Each potential moment of loss is a potential spiritual death, with the potential for liberation. It is an act of letting go, and then freedom follows.

There is no talk of bishops moving into council houses

Real death involves the loss of everything, and all these forms of spiritual death are rehearsals for it. And so an unencumbered soul may slide peacefully from this world to the next.

None of these things is bad in itself, nor are possessions bad in themselves. But someone who is possessed by his possessions, and compelled to seek ever more of them, is in bad spiritual trouble. He has fallen victim to a kind of addiction or dependency; and he is also a danger to others for he has power over others. A spirituality of wealth creation, therefore, would have to start from the particular spiritual risks of that activity. Creating wealth is no sin, provided there is no sin in the means of creating it; nor is enjoying it, provided there is no sin in the means of enjoying it. Falling under its spell, however, is when the gates of hell begin to beckon. So those who create wealth need and deserve a rather special kind of spiritual care, to keep them safe from being ensnared by it. That would make rather a welcome message from the church to the enterprise culture, but it may not be quite what the Institute of Directors was hoping to hear nor what the bishop was offering.

Lt COL ALASTAIR CRANSTOUN

Helping to arrange Italian army's surrender

Lieutenant Colonel Alastair ("Sandy") Cranstoun, MC, of that ilk and of Corehouse, head of the family of Cranstoun, died suddenly on February 28 at his home. He was aged 79 and had suffered from Alzheimer's Disease for several years.

In his military and diplomatic career during and after the Second World War he played a key role both in arranging the Italian army surrender in 1943 (when Mussolini was replaced by Marshal Badoglio) and in the final withdrawal of occupying forces when Austria became an independent nation.

Alastair Joseph Edgar Cranstoun was born Alastair Gordon on August 11, 1910, son of another regular army officer, Major General Alister Gordon, DSO, a Gordon Highlander. In those days in the Highlands it was common practice for sons to be named after their fathers but with a difference in spelling to avoid confusion.

Alastair Gordon, the son, changed his surname to Cranstoun in 1950 on the death of his uncle, the previous head of the family.

His father was killed in action in France in 1917. Alastair, after education at Ampleforth and Magdalene College, Oxford, where he gained a first in history, was helped by a former colleague and friend of his father to join the Grenadier Guards, in which he was commissioned.

He was wounded in action in France in 1940 but escaped and served with the Grenadiers 6th Battalion in North Africa, where he was again wounded seriously and was awarded the Military Cross. As a consequence of these wounds he never saw action again but worked in intelligence in the advance up Italy

and into Austria and later served in the British military mission to Greece. He became a military attaché in 1948 and as such was posted to the British embassy in Portugal.

While in Italy he was deeply involved in negotiations with Italian officers before the successful "change of sides" of the Italians. When posted to Greece he was also active against the post-war communist insurgents.

His final overseas posting before retiring was to Vienna, where as Deputy British Commandant he was involved in the delicate four-power negotiations before the occupying armies withdrew and Austria became an independent nation again. He commanded the final withdrawal. At the very end he was the senior allied officer left in Vienna.

Part of his success in his career was his fluency in languages - he learned easily Portuguese, Greek, German, French and Italian. He also spoke Arabic.

After his retirement in 1959 Lieutenant Colonel Cranstoun became deeply involved in local affairs, and was appointed Deputy Lieutenant of Lanarkshire and also made his family home at Corehouse, Lanark.

Although this was not the original home of the Cranstouns - they lost their original lands in the South East of Scotland in the 18th century - the name of "Corehouse" has been adopted into their family name.

He married Teresa Fessia. They have no children so the new head of the family of Cranstoun is their nephew David Lockhart, a Senior Agricultural Lecturer in Scotland.

Mr JUSTICE McNEILL

Mr Justice Anthony Evans writes:

May I add a postscript to your obituary notice of Mr Justice McNeill (February 27th)? Your heading "Weighing up the evidence on the merits of the case" is as fine a tribute as can be earned by any Judge, and I would only seek to add, as an advocate who appeared before him and as one who was later an admiring junior colleague, a more personal footnote.

He was a sound lawyer, an

hard-working judge, a delightful companion and above all a modest and courteous man, sustained by the devotion of his charming wife, Margaret. He was, I believe, much respected by members of the Bar, not least by its younger members. As for the manner in which he conducted proceedings in his Court, a sufficient tribute is the report that, when the news of his death was announced to the jurors with whom he had been sitting for many weeks, several of them burst into tears.

Birthdays

TODAY: Mr Ernest Bradbury, writer and broadcaster, 71; the Hon Peter Brooke, MP, 56; Mr Peter Calver, motorcycle trainer, 56; Lord John Fitterer, racehorse trainer, 38; Dr Rod Hackney, former president, RIBA, 48; Mr Martin Lovett, former member Amadeus Quartet, 63; Mr Maurice Lynn, headmaster, The Oratory School, 39; Air Vice-Marshal C.G. Maughan, 67; Lord Melish, 77; Mr Peter O'Sullivan, racing commentator, 72; Sir Mark Prescott, racehorse trainer, 42; the Right Rev Dr J.R. Richards, former Bishop of St David's, 89; Mr Rod Seal, artist and caricaturist, 70; Lord Templeman, 70; Sir John Ward, diplomat, 81; Miss Fauma Whitbread, athlete, 29.

Dinners

Commanderie de Bordeaux, Bristol
The Commanderie entertained the Grand Conseil du Vin de Bordeaux at a Dinner held last night at the Commercial Rooms, Bristol, to mark the tenth anniversary of the founding of the Commanderie in England. The Maître, Mr Charles Clarke, presided, and the Wine Guilds of St Emilion, the Medoc, Graves, Guyenne, Basque, Semeuse, Ste Croix du Mont, Fumet, Loupiac, Ponsac, Montagne, Lalande, Pomerol, Puisseguin, Bourg, Blaye, Entre-deux-Mers and the Premières Cotes de Bordeaux and the Academie du Vin de Bordeaux were represented. Amongst those present were the Lord Lieutenant of Avon, Sir John Wills, the Lord Mayor of Mountstephen, The Vice-Chancellor of Bristol University, Sir John Kingman, the Chairman of the Bristol-Bordeaux Association, Professor W. Howarth and the Master of the Society of Merchant Venturers, Mr Dayrell McArthur, and their ladies.

Anniversaries

TODAY
BIRTHS: Edmund Waller, poet, 1606; Buckinghamshire, 1606; Sir John Fitterer, racehorse trainer, 1638-68; Oxford, 1606; Thomas Otway, dramatist, 1687; Sussex, 1652; William Godwin, philosopher, 1756; William Macready, actor, 1793; Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone, Edinburgh, 1847.
DEATHS: Sir Nicholas Carew, courtier, executed, London, 1539; Robert Hooke, physicist, London, 1703; Aurangzeb, Mogul emperor of India 1658-1707; London, 1755; Robert Adam, architect and designer, London, 1792; Francis Egerton, 3rd Duke

Old Stortfordians' Society
Mr J. Logsdon, President of the Old Stortfordians' Society, presided at the annual dinner held last night at the Park Lane Hotel. Mr John Clemeot, Mr Steven Benson, Headmaster of Bishop's Stortford College, and Mr John Powell also spoke.

Old Felsteadian Society
The annual dinner of the Old Felsteadian Society was held at Simpson's-in-the-Strand last night. Mr F.H.V. Davis was the guest of honour and Major-General G. Burch, president, was in the chair. Mr E.H. Gould, Headmaster of Felstead School, and members of the board of governors were also present.

London Watkinson Club
Mr Edgar Miller, President of the London Watkinson Club, presided at the annual dinner held last night at the Caledonian Hotel. Professor Keith Moffat, the Rev Jobo McIndoe, Mr Peter Healy, Master of the Merchant Company of Edinburgh, Mr Frank Gerstenberg, Principal of George Watson's College, and Mr Douglas Stewart were the principal guests.

of Bridgewater, engineer, canal builder, London, 1803; Nicolai Gogol, novelist and dramatist, Moscow, 1852; Copley Fielding, landscape painter, Worthing, 1855; Arthur Koestler, novelist, 1983; Danny Kaye, actor, 1987; German-Russian Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, 1918.

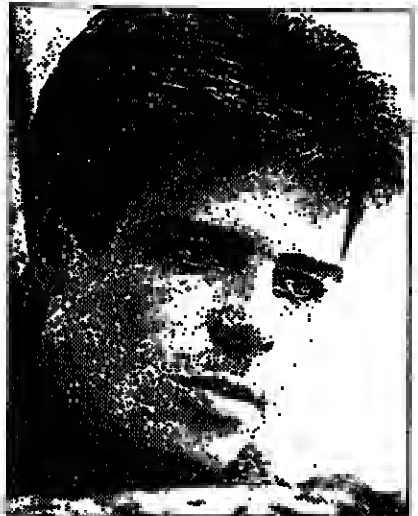
TOMORROW
BIRTHS: Antonio Vivaldi, Venetian, 1678; Sir Henry Raeburn, portrait painter, Edinburgh, 1756; Giovanni Schiaparelli, astronomer, Savignano, Italy, 1835.
DEATHS: Bernard Gilpin, the "Apostle of the North", Houghton-Spring, Durham, 1583; Jean Francois Champollion, Egyptologist, Paris, 1832; William Willett, originator of "daylight saving", Chislehurst, Kent, 1915.

SATURDAY'S TELEVISION AND RADIO

Striking a blow at life

Peter Waymark

● In case viewers on the British mainland are puzzled, *Clash of the Ash* (Channel 4, 10.00pm) takes its title from the Irish national sport of hurling. But hurling is only one strand in writer-director Fergus Tighe's drama of a disaffected schoolboy in a small Irish town. Phil Kelly (William Heffernan) may be a star on the sports field but the rest of his life is blighted by a nagging mood, disappointing school results, gang fights and experiments with dope.



William Heffernan: as the disaffected schoolboy Phil Kelly (Ch4, 10.00pm)

Compared with most dramas of small-town Ireland the notable omission is the suffocating influence of the Catholic Church, though Phil's school is run by a Father O'Leary. It is hardly giving anything away to say that Phil's frustration eventually boils over, helped by an old girlfriend returning from London with enticing tales of the big city. *Clash of the Ash* is the first in a season of dramas by young film makers from around the world, with pieces to come from New Zealand, Sweden and Canada. If Tighe the writer has provided a scenario which develops along predictable lines, Tighe the director has guided his cast to a series of fresh and natural performances and there is a nice feel for the texture of a small, tightly organized and conservative community.

● For tonight's instalment of his excellent series *Missionaries* (BBC2, 8.00pm), Julian Pettifer travels to Asia. He calls his report *Trying Ground* and he is not joking. Trying to spread the Christian message in the Orient must be more discouraging than being the Labour Party agent in Guildford or Eastbourne. In a desperate attempt to weave middle-class Japanese away from Shintoism, with its practical benefits and minimum demands, a French priest set up his "church" in a whisky bar. He has managed just 30 converts in 10 years. "The closest most Americans get to things spiritual," Pettifer caustically observes, "is a bottle of Black Label or Suntory Gold". An English missionary, Graham Burton, has fared little better in Pakistan, where memories of colonialism die hard and a challenge to Islam is tantamount to taking on the state itself. In Thailand, which has a history of Christian initiative by Americans, the locals are happy to make use of missionary hospitals and schools without feeling the need to embrace the faith. This is *Trying Ground* indeed but the faith is undimmed.

Frying tonight, a tasty dish

RADIO CHOICE

Peter Davalle

● It is disorientating for the average listener (whoever she/he is) when a comedy series uses words such as connotational, talk about arbitrary dictates and Dionysiac excess, and employs the Mozart and Verdi requiems as bridging music. We just haven't been brought up to cope with this sort of thing. But take heart. Saturday Night Fry (Radio 4, 11.30pm), now getting a second airing, makes our re-education an almost unqualified pleasure. "I think we are about to have fun," says Stephen Fry, the show's master spirit, by way of introduction, and he only slightly overdoes it bit of fare when he promises frolic, gaiety, splendour, and a kind of hell-raising, barnstorming, bowel-trembling — and the



Stephen Fry: master spirit of the show (Radio 4, 11.30pm)

Answers from page 16

IMPENNOUS
(a) Without wings, wingless, from the Latin *impenno*, 'to be without wings'.
(b) A person who is 'impenno' by complications, as abstract of humour from above as impenno necessities were snared by thematic joking.

BLISSOM
(c) In heat or in rut, chiefly of a cow or a goat, from the Old Norse *blissom* meaning 'blissful'.
(d) A state of being blissful, as in 'Blissful Mr. Tatham dined on a Miss Swint squealing over a ha-ha'.

TOURNAMENT OF THE MIND

Answer from page 3: Komodo Dragon

BE

6.40 Open University: Pure Maths —

Conic Sections 7.05 Elections and the People

7.30 *Saturday Night* with Wayne Jackson and Ian Tregennan

beginning with Playdays from Norden, Rochdale (7.35) Laurel and Hardy in a cartoon *Stand Up, Stevie Moore*

8.15 *Tales of the Roadster* starring Holmes. Episode one of a new seven-part series starring Roland Rat as the super-sleuth this morning

investigating the case of Wilson the Notorious Carver. With Barbara Windsor and John Ripley 8.35 *Thundercats* in *Mandora and the Pirates* (7)

8.00 *Going Live!* presented by Sarah Greene and Philip Schofield. This week's *Press Conference* guest is actress Dame Judi Dench 12.12 *Weather*

12.15 *Grandstand* introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is (subject to alteration): 12.20 *Football*: The World Cup contenders in action; 12.30 *Bobblehead*: The World four-man championship from St. Moritz. The reporter is Peter Walker; 12.50 *News*; 12.55 *Racing*: The 1.00, 1.30 and 2.00 from Haydock Park, with commentary from Peter O'Sullivan and Richard Patten; 1.45 and 1.45 from Newbury described by Julian Wilson and John Harmer; 2.10 *Rugby Union*: live coverage of the game in Cardiff between Wales and Scotland; the commentators are Bill McLaren and Eddie Butler; and at 4.00 highlights of the France v Ireland game in Paris where the commentators are Nigel Stanger-Smith and Brendan Mullin; 4.35 *Cricket*: news of the third one-day international between West Indies and England; 4.40 *Final Score*

5.05 *News* with Moira Stuart; *Weather* 5.15 *Regional News and Sport*

5.20 *The Flying Doctors*: The Noble Art. Sam and his new bride surprise everyone when they return home from their honeymoon, and shock Kate when she finds out they are to live. Starring Peter O'Brien and Liz Burch. (Ceefax)

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6.40 *Little and Large* with Syd and Barry McGuigan, Gary Mason and Jimmy Somerville. (Ceefax)

7.15 *Film*: *Young Sherlock Holmes* (1985) starring Nicholas Rowe, Alan Cox and Sophie Ward. Mystery thriller set in the 1870s, when the young master detective and his ever-faithful schoolfriend Watson begin their long and fruitful association by investigating the mysterious death of an eccentric schoolmaster. Directed by Barry Levinson. (Ceefax)

9.00 *News* and Sport. With Martyn Lewis. *Weather*

9.20 *Midnight Caller*: Based on a True Story. Late-night radio DJ Jack Killian is dubious when a Hollywood producer approaches him with the idea of turning his experience of last year's San Francisco earthquake into a movie. Starring Gary Cole, Wendy Kibbourne and Dennis Dun. (Ceefax)

10.10 *Film*: *Breathless*. The man of a thousand faces and boundless disguises is joined by John Bird, Steve Nallon and Enn Reitel (7)

10.40 *World Championship Boxing*. Desmond Lynam introduces coverage of the world welterweight title fight at Wembley Arena between Britain's Lloyd Honeyghan and the holder Mark Breland of the United States. The commentator is Harry Carpenter

11.00 *International Cricket*. Highlights of the third one-day international between West Indies and England, introduced by Tony Lewis

12.30 *Film*: *Mongo's Back in Town* (1971) starring Joe Don Baker, Sally Kellerman, and John Huston. A made-for-television thriller about a ruthless killer who returns to his home town after having served his prison sentence. The local police are justifiably curious about his presence. Directed by Marvin Chomsky

1.40 *Weather*

LONDON

6.00 TV-am begins with News and It's

Stardust. Alvin Stardust introduces songs, stories and poems about the town and country (7.00) WAC 50 with Tommy Boyd and

9.25 *Michaela Strachan*. This week's edition includes Tony Gregory's behind-the-scenes report on the New Kids on the Block's US tour as well as a preview of the band's latest video. *Hi Se Love You* for Ever. Back in the studio there is music from Brother Beyond and cartoon fun with Scooby Doo and

11.30 *The TV Chart Show*. The Vintage Video features Style Council

12.30 *The Movers*: Today's A Hero. A hero who saves a boy's life, and he is asked to advertise a cereal, but he finds being a local celebrity is not what he expected

1.00 *News* with Fiona Armstrong. *Weather* 1.05 LWT News and

1.10 *Saint & Greaves*. Ian St John and Greaves preview the weekend's top matches and discuss the week's football news

1.40 *Sportsman's Sports* quiz presented by Dicky Davies

2.10 *Coronation Street* (7)

2.30 *Snooker and Athletics*. Tony Francis introduces the opening frames of the Paul Hunter World British Open snooker final from the Assembly Rooms, Derby. Jim Rosenthal is in Glasgow for the opening day of the European

2.45 *Results Service*

3.00 *News* with Fiona Armstrong. *Weather* 3.05 LWT News and

3.15 *Shell Game* show

3.45 *Baywatch*: Cruise Ship. Mitch's son, Hobie, is kidnapped. The boat is not easy when he experiences

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6.50 Open University

2.45 *Shikant*. The concluding episode of the Indian drama serial and Shikant recovers from cholera (in Hindi with English subtitles) (7)

3.20 *Film*: *Seventh Cavalry* (1956) starring Randolph Scott and Barbara Hale. A disguised cavalry captain

4.35 *International Bowls*. David Loke introduces the world's final of the Embassy World Indoor

5.15 *Rhythms of the World*: Salfi Kaita. Commenting last night's *Arena* documentary on Salfi Kaita's life

6.15 *News* with Fiona Armstrong. *Weather* 6.20 LWT News and

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6.00 Durrell in Russia (7) 6.30 Just 4

Fun 7.00 *Once upon a Time...Life* 7.30 *International Times*

8.00 *Channel 4* *Racing*: The Morning Line 9.25 *Swing and the Stars* of the 1930s and 1940s

9.30 *Same Difference*. Why flying can be such an ordeal for disabled passengers (7)

10.00 *Traveling* (7)

10.30 *Film*: *Go into Your Dance* (1935, b/w) starring Al Jolson, Ruby Keeler, Barton MacLean and Helen Morgan. Al Jolson is an entertainer who becomes involved with

11.00 *Equinox*: The Art of Deception (7) 1.00 *Film*: *The Perfect Woman* (1945, b/w) starring Stanley Holloway, Patricia Roc and Nigel Patrick. Comedy about the piece of an inventor who takes the place of a female robot he has created. Directed by Bernard Knowles

1.35 *Film*: *All at Sea* (1957, b/w) starring Alec Guinness as the sea-sick relative of a long line of brave sea dogs. Directed by Charles Frend

2.00 *Right to Reply*. The *Oprah* Winfrey Show on rape and a *Strut Out of Time* come in for comment

2.30 *Scottish Eye*. A profile of Michael Forsyth, the MP who has been given the task of gaining the Conservative popularity in Scotland

3.00 *The World This Week* includes a look at Sweden's political difficulties

3.15 *Europe Express* Followed by

3.30 *Adventures*: *White Fury*. A raft journey through Tibet brings not only exciting moments on the water but also some amazing insights into the Himalayan kingdom. (Oracle)

3.50 *Grand Canyon*. The spectacular Grand Canyon from the air

4.00 *thirtysomething*. American comedy/drama series. (Oracle)

Flying the flag on autopilot

Peter Waymark

● Billed as "a series of films on British Airways", *Airline* (BBC2, 8.35pm) promises to be a lot more interesting than this bald description would suggest. I did not know that the members of a 747 crew are each served different meals in case of food poisoning. Or, on a more serious level, that 98 per cent of a flight is on autopilot, giving the human pilots little to do. "Flying an airliner is hours and hours of boredom punctuated by moments of stark terror," is the verdict of Captain Ted Deacon, as he sits back and lets the computer guide 327 passengers and assorted dogs and cats on the flight from Heathrow to Bangkok. Do we need pilots at all, or will planes eventually be flown from the ground? Air traffic controllers, who work longer hours than pilots for a quarter of the salary, think this is already happening. But pity the pilots' wives, stuck at home alone for half the year while their husbands live it up in luxury hotels. And pity the women pilots. They are about as common as women MPs, face similar prejudices and not one of them has yet made it to captain.



Captain Ted Deacon: relaxes and lets the computer do the work (BBC2, 8.35pm)

RADIO CHOICE

Peter Davalle

● All good things must come to an end, even *The Radio 4 Debate* (8.00pm). The programmes have been models of their kind: strong views, most of them succinctly expressed, by the "for" and "against" speakers; useful arguments from the audience; firm control of the proceedings from the resident chairman Brian Redhead. If, and when, a new series is planned, serious consideration should be given to extending the debates by 15 minutes. Better still, by 30. All the subjects debated during the past four weeks — and certainly tonight's clash of opinions on the motion that our present prison system cannot rehabilitate offenders — have been meaty, complex, and controversial enough to warrant extra time. I almost said injury time, because in *The Radio 4 Debate*, no quarter is sought and none is given.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW
News on the half-hour from 6.00am until 12.30pm, then at 2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30pm
5.00am Tim Smith 7.00 Bruno and Liz Breakfast Show 10.00 Dave Lee Travis 12.30pm Pick of the Pops: Alan Freeman with the week's Top 20 charts from 1963, 1976 and 1987 3.00 Scorpions (presented by Simon Mayo) 5.30 Phil Schofield 8.00 Top 40 with Bruno Brookes 7.00 Anne Nightingale Request Show 8.00 Andy Kershaw 11.00-12.00am Bob Harris on Sunday

RADIO 2

FM Stereo and MW
4.00am David Allen 6.00 Graham Knight 7.30 Good Morning Sunday 9.00 Melodiscs For You 11.00 Your Radio 2 All-Time Greats 2.00 Benny Green 3.00 Sounds Easy 4.00 Orchestral Contrasts: Love and Hate 4.30-5.00 Sing Something Simple 6.30-7.00 Charlie Chester (FM only) 7.00 An Actor's Life For Me 7.30 Opera Nights 8.30 Sunday Half-Hour 8.50 Your Hundred Best Tunes 12.00-1.00 Songs from the Shows 10.45 Geoff Eales 11.00 Sounds of Jazz 1.00am Nightline 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University (FM only)
6.55 Weather and News Headlines
7.00 Handel: A series featuring the Concerto Grosso, Op 6, The Sixteen Choir and Orchestra under Christopher, with Lynne Dawson, soprano, Ian Partridge, tenor, perform O Sing unto the Lord a new song: Vienna Concentus Musicus under Harmonicon performs Concerto Grosso in E minor, Op 6 No 3
7.30 News
7.35 Musiclink: LPO under Cameron performs Schubert's Concerto, Op 91; Rachmaninov (Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini)
8.30 News
8.35 Your Concert Choice: Elgar (Enigma Variations; BBC SO under Tomlinson); Schumann (Romances: Yves Nat, piano); Gounod (Missa Solenne; Concerto in C minor; Orchestral Ensemble of Paris under Welles, with Jean-Pierre Rampal); Mozart (Symphony in G flat; Wind Ensemble of the Vienna PO); Joplin (Symphonies-Concertante; San Francisco SO under de Waart, with Michael Murray, organ)
10.30 Musiklink: Schostakovich Season. In the Shadow of Shostakovich: Michael Ower takes us on a musical journey in Finland
11.15 BBC Scottish SO under Andrew Davies performs Nielsen (Overture); Shostakovich (Symphony No 1); Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 5)
12.40am Viola and Piano: Yuri Bashmet and Peter Schubert (Sonata "Arpeggione"); Shostakovich (Sonata, Op 147)
1.40 Post of the Month: James Fenton presents "The Ballad of the Shivering Man" from his latest collection
1.45 Towards Bach (new series): A series of 10 programmes, including concertos from last year's South Bank season and specially recorded studio performances. Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment under Gustav Leonard performs J.C.F. Bach (Suite No 4 "Journal du Prince"); J.S. Bach (Concerto No 207, Veracini's Concerto for the violin; Bach (Sonata for the violin; Bach (Sonata for the violin; and 2.30-3.00am Radio 4

3.25 Rubinstein on Record with Graham Shephard. The pianist's performance of Chopin's Fantasy in F minor, Op 49; Brahms (Intermezzo in A, Op 118 No 2, and 6 minor, Op 119 No 2); Schumann (Piano Quintet in E flat, Op 44; Guarnieri Quartet; Villa-Lobos (Prole do bebe, excerpt); Saint-Saens (Piano Concerto No 2 in G minor, Op 22; Symphony of the Air under Wallerstein); Prokofiev (March, Love of Three Oranges) (r)
4.55 BBC PO under Downes performs Beethoven (Symphony, Coriolan); Liszt (From the Cradle to the Grave); Brahms (Serenade No 1 in D)
6.15 Andrew's Scandinavian Season. Accompanied by sounds and music from Helsinki and the surrounding countryside, six Finnish writers (two writing in Swedish, four in Finnish) show how they cope with their local and imagined frontiers
7.00 Ench Leinsdorf and the Chicago SO perform Mozart (Symphony No 41 in C; The Marriage of Figaro; Concerto for Piano and Orchestra)
8.30 Stamic String Quartet performs Haydn (Quartet in D minor, Op 76 No 2); Janáček (Quartet No 2 "Inmate Letters"); Schubert (Quartet in D minor "Death of the Maiden")
10.00 Third Ear with Robert
10.30 Love Made Me Welcome: A meditation for the first Sunday in Lent, recorded in Coventry Cathedral.
Readings from St Luke's gospel, interspersed with the poems of George Herbert and the music of Bach
11.30 The Sacred Mysteries of Heinrich Bibler (new series): In the first of five programmes on the "Mystery Sonatas", inspired by events in the Virgin Mary's life, the Virgin Mary, Macmillan, violin, Timothy Kresmer, cello, Alastair Ross, organ and Jacob Lindberg, harpsichord, perform Sonatas. No 1 in D minor "Annunciation"; No 2 in A "Visitation"; No 3 in B minor "Birth of Jesus"; No 4 in D minor "Presentation of Jesus in the Temple"; No 5 in C major "Epiphany"; No 6 in E major "Adoration of the Kings"; No 7 in F major "Flight into Egypt"; No 8 in G major "Finding in the Temple"; No 9 in A major "The Boy Jesus in the Temple"; No 10 in B major "The Boy Jesus in the Temple"; No 11 in C major "The Boy Jesus in the Temple"; No 12 in D major "The Boy Jesus in the Temple"; No 13 in E major "The Boy Jesus in the Temple"; No 14 in F major "The Boy Jesus in the Temple"; No 15 in G major "The Boy Jesus in the Temple"; No 16 in A major "The Boy Jesus in the Temple"; No 17 in B major "The Boy Jesus in the Temple"; No 18 in C major "The Boy Jesus in the Temple"; No 19 in D major "The Boy Jesus in the Temple"; No 20 in E major "The Boy Jesus in the Temple"; No 21 in F major "The Boy Jesus in the Temple"; No 22 in G major "The Boy Jesus in the Temple"; No 23 in A major "The Boy Jesus in the Temple"; 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
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Rowland down but not out in fight for Harrods

The chief executive of Lonrho will continue his obsessive struggle to gain control of House of Fraser, writes William Kay, despite a DTI ruling against any further action over the takeover of the group by the Fayed brothers in 1985



Strong-minded: for Tiny Rowland, the battle will continue

Tiny Rowland's quest for control of Harrods, the 141-year-old Knightsbridge department store, has been one of the most fascinating business stories of the 20th century: the determination of one man, in the face of successive reversals, to reach a chosen goal.

This week, Mr Rowland received another blow in his 14-year struggle when Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Trade Secretary, said he did not intend to take any further action in respect of the takeover of House of Fraser, the Harrods parent company, by the Egyptian-born Fayed brothers.

After the announcement, Lonrho, Mr Rowland's company, contented itself with predicting that there would be "a demand for action" when the DTI inspectors' report on the takeover is published on Wednesday.

Loudest in making those demands will be Mr Rowland himself. One suggestion is that he might challenge Mr Ridley's decision by asking the courts for a judicial review. Or he may attempt to sue the Fayed brothers through a civil action.

But, even though he will be 73 this year, Mr Rowland's unfailing determination, coupled with effectively unlimited reserves to pay legal fees, ensures he will find some means of continuing the fight.

While obsession, defined by the Oxford English Dictionary as "the action of any influence, notion or fixed idea which persistently assails or vexes", is the most accurate word to describe Mr Rowland's behaviour since 1976, it seems inadequate to encompass the fierce vendetta this strong-minded and charismatic man has pursued.

Mr Rowland joined Lonrho in 1961. Originally called the London and Rhodesia Mining and Land Company, he built it into an Africa-based trading business, buying and selling sugar, maize, copper, oil, asbestos, diamonds and other commodities. In the mid-1970s, he decided to expand Lonrho's interests in Britain, mainly because a change in the law made it expensive to pay dividends out of overseas earnings.

Although he acquired hotels and dabbled in manufacturing, his grand design was to build a British retailing empire, whose rich cash flows he could deploy elsewhere. Harrods was to be the centrepiece of that strategy. It was to be the greatest test of his claim to have "a deep animal instinct for the chemistry of people."

Born in India of German parents, Mr Rowland returned to Hamburg with his family in the 1920s and he briefly joined the Hitler Youth. In the 1930s the family moved to England, where he attended Churchers, a minor public school in Petersfield, Hampshire. After the war, he went into business, transferring to South Africa because of apparent unhappiness with the British tax system.

Lonrho's success rested on Mr Rowland's ability to persuade African political leaders to do business with him. They needed knowhow and contacts, but mistrusted most white entrepreneurs. He delivered.

In 1971, City confidence in Lonrho collapsed after two directors were arrested in South Africa and two others resigned. So did SG Warburg as merchant bank advisers. The board called in Peat Marwick, the accountant, to report on the group's financial position.

They discovered a liquidity crisis, as a result of which Mr Rowland recruited non-executive directors to bolster confidence. They included the late Lord Duncan-Sandys, Sir Edward du Cann and Sir Basil Smallpiece, former head of Harrods.

Further falls for Fine Art shares

By Gillian Bowditch

Shares in Fine Art Developments, the greeting card and mail order business, fell a further 12p to 218p yesterday when it gave warning that profits for the year to March 1990 would be barely up on last year's £22.6 million.

Brokers have been downgrading profits from about £27 million, wiping £28.3 million off the company's value as the shares fell by 15 per cent.

The company said that while the general mail order business had a successful autumn, the spring campaign was very disappointing with sales down on last year and the business not covering its costs.

Venture Marketing, the personal shopping mail order business, has also experienced poor results and Paperette, the card shops, have suffered from the retail downturn.

Fine Art's results have also been hit by the delayed £14 million sale of the group's Australian operations to EPL.

Inoco slumps into loss

Inoco, the property group, made a pre-tax loss of £2.66 million in 1989, against a profit of £2.29 million, and issued a warning that there will be further losses until interest rates fall.

There is no dividend (0.225p) on a loss of 1.8p a share (earnings of 1.90p).

While operating profits advanced from £5.36 million to £6.48 million, interest charges jumped from £2.19 million to £7.03 million. Inoco's shares were traded at 12p yesterday compared with a year-end net asset value of 41p.

Hampden builds to £1.49m

By Melinda Wittstock

Hampden Homecare, the Belfast-based DIY store operator which is 29.9 per cent owned by Ladbroke's Texas Homecare subsidiary, has increased 1989 pre-tax profits by 6.4 per cent to £1.49 million despite what it characterized as a "severe downturn in consumer expenditure."

Turnover at the company, which opened two more Texas Homecare stores in Northern Ireland in 1989, was up 0.5 per cent to £20.7 million, while operating margins were unchanged at 6.1 per cent.

Earnings per share slipped from 9.11p to 7.6p. The final dividend is up from 1.5p to 1.6p, making a total of 2.1p, against 2p last time.

Hampden said it is to open up three more Texas Homecare superstores in Dublin.

Under Hampden's joint venture with Kwik-Fit Holdings, the car repair business,

Conard. But Sir Basil organized a revolt which caused Mr Edward Heath, the then prime minister, to describe Lonrho as "an unpleasant and unacceptable face of capitalism."

Mr Rowland survived that and began to focus attention on Sir Hugh Fraser, who had effectively inherited House of Fraser from his father at the age of 29. Sir Hugh, who died in 1987, was identified by Mr Rowland as a man who cared more about gambling than the family business.

They developed a father-son relationship, joining one another's boards as Mr Rowland amassed a 29 per cent stake in House of Fraser. But he came up against the combined might of Warburg and Cazenove, Fraser's adviser and broker. In 1980, they brought on to the Fraser board the redoubtable Professor Roland Smith, now head of British Aerospace. He was to prove a mighty stumbling block.

In 1981, Lonrho made a full-scale bid, but it was stopped by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Another Monopolies inquiry was launched three years later into an attempt by Lonrho to appoint 12 Fraser directors.

That summer Mohamed Al-Fayed, who had been a Lonrho director in 1975, offered to buy Lonrho's stake in Fraser. Mr Rowland replied: "The acceptable thing for us would be an offer to all the shareholders."

In October, Mr Rowland changed his mind, allegedly in frustration at the Monopolies Commission report being further delayed. In March 1985, the Fayed made a full bid, with DTI approval.

Mr Rowland reacted like a wounded bear, howling that he had been unfairly denied. The Observer, owned by Lonrho, embarked on a campaign. The bid had been made in cash, but Mr Rowland has continued to question where the money came from, suggesting that the Fayed's falsely represented their true wealth in order to win.

In 1987, Mr Paul Channon, Ridley's predecessor-but-one at the DTI, ordered an investigation into the deal. Publication of the inspectors' report has been delayed pending last week's decision by the Director of Public Prosecutions that "the evidence available is insufficient to afford a realistic prospect of conviction for any criminal offence relating to any matter of substance raised in the report."

However, the ambivalence contained in that statement surely gives Mr Rowland more than enough straws to clutch on to his belief that he should be the rightful owner of Harrods.

Ten men, a woman and three companies charged in connection with the alleged £837 million Blue Arrow fraud, were committed to the Central Criminal Court for trial by City of London Magistrates.

It is believed to be the first time corporate charges have been brought and centres around the August 1987 flotation of Blue Arrow, the employment agency.

The charged were allowed bail with a surety or sureties in varying amounts, passports to be surrendered, not to discuss the case with named witnesses and to notify police of any change of address.

Accused are: County NatWest, the merchant banking arm of National Westminster; NatWest Investment Bank; and UBS Phillips and Drew, the stockbroker; Mr Charles Villiers, aged 48, former chairman at County NatWest; Mr Jonathan Cohen, aged 44, its former chief executive; and Mr Timothy Brown, aged 45, managing director of P&D.

Mr Nicholas Wells, aged 35, and Mr David Reed, aged 42, both former directors in County NatWest's corporate advisory division; Miss Elizabeth Brindley, aged 38, former director of County NatWest; Mr Stephen Clark, aged 41, County NatWest finance director; Mr Alan Kent, aged 47, former legal adviser to County NatWest; Mr Martin Gibbs, aged 60, former head of corporate finance at P&D; Mr Paul Smallwood, aged 55, director of British equity sales at P&D; and Mr Christopher Stanforth, aged 36, former transaction team leader of corporate finance at P&D.

The new Germany passes Japan in superpower race



KENNETH FLEET

The tide of euphoria that swept the FT-SE index to 2,479 on January 4 has gone out. In differing degrees, all important equity markets, with the exception of Frankfurt, have had a similar experience.

They have not crashed: they have adjusted the value of shares - downward - in response to rising bond yields.

High interest rates are not exactly a new phenomenon in the UK, nor in the United States, but by encouraging them, the West German and Japanese central banks have postponed the day when it might be sensible to anticipate lower rates in London and New York. The equity market may remain in a dreary state for a while yet, but better dreary than dire.

The most potent factor shaping expectations in the money capitals of the world is not, however, high interest rates.

It is the grinding up of the two Germanys for unification and super power status. Six months ago, only Japan seemed to have the qualifications to sit on the right hand side of the United States.

With unification, the opening to the East and inevitable economic dominance in Europe as a whole, Germany's claims rival and probably now exceed Japan's.

This is a daunting prospect for the rest of the European Community.

Brussels fears that West Germany will relegate Community aspirations, for example for monetary union, in favour of the more immediate, practical benefits of drawing in East Germany.

For the West German economy, already at full stretch, a large German-speaking labour force is manna from a Teutonic heaven and the Democratic Republic better ground for sitting new factories than, say, Spain or Portugal. Absorbing East Germany is clearly

not without problems. Chancellor Helmut Kohl is wedded to German monetary union on the basis of parity - one East German mark for one West. This would mean an instant bonus for East Germans and a bonanza for those with savings to convert.

A wave of spending would add to inflationary pressures already implied in West Germany's commitment to provide financial aid to assist in East Germany's regeneration.

The West German central bank, zealous guardian of the value of the mark, has reservations but has let itself, for the time being, be carried along by the political will. Outside West Germany, the problems are being exaggerated, I suspect, out of wishful thinking.

West Germany has the scope and is unlikely to lack the determination to engineer German monetary union on a minimum inflation basis. Higher interest rates, already in train in the German bond market, is one safeguard.

A revaluation of the West German mark, through the impact it would have in raising imports and releasing West German resources for transfer to East Germany, is another.

For the moment however, it is the Bank of Japan, not the Bundesbank, that is driving the world's bond and equity markets.

The new Governor, Yasushi Mieno, has provoked a public dispute with the Ministry of Finance, with his commitment to controlling asset prices (notably land but also securities) through putting up the official discount rate and

taking money out of the system by propping up the yen. Mayhem in the Tokyo market, and some injury to London and Wall Street, is down to Mr Mieno.

While Japanese policy is best described as confused, it has also set the tone in London and New York. Both markets, with memories of the October 1987 crash still fresh in the memory, have shown surprising resilience. The prevailing sentiment in London remains bearish but not heavily so.

The volume of business has been woefully low with the managers of big investment funds content to leave the action to small and medium-sized players.

One of the lessons of 1987, and underlined in last autumn's sudden fall, is the difficulty fund managers may have in buying back good stock they sold when the market was diving. Another reason for remaining firmly on the sidelines and not rushing to sell is that relatively small selling orders will have a disproportionate impact on the market price. The main outcome of a sale of part of a holding could be to depress the value of stock still in the fund. For managers of huge funds, the exercise is self-defeating.

Statistical comparisons of share values in the US, Japan and Germany put UK equities in a reassuring light. The mood however is unlikely to turn positive until there is some good news from the economic front and/or the heat under the Government subsides. The January trade figures and the latest money supply figures were not helpful but the Budget is little more than two weeks away (March 20).

The City is prepared to give John Major a fair wind. The one thing he would not be forgiven for is relaxing his economic policy in response to Tory backbench pressures. The teenage scribbles who put Nigel Lawson in his place sense that Mr Major is on a winning course and should not deviate.

No quarter in a fight to the death

I remember, a long time ago, asking an Ulster colleague "What is the answer to the Irish question?" His answer was simple and, as I came to realize, absolutely correct: "If you think there's an answer, you don't understand the question."

I have often thought that the 12 years war between Tiny Rowland and House of Fraser was akin to the Irish question - particularly so since March, 1985, when the Fayed brothers succeeded where Mr Rowland had failed - acquiring Fraser and with it the prize

both wanted, Harrods. The circumstances of the 1985 takeover are examined in a Department of Trade report which will be published, at last, on Wednesday.

The Secretary of State, Nicholas Ridley, has said that the Government does not intend to take any further action in the affair. That ought to be that but, of course, it won't be.

Details in the report will arouse renewed controversy but more important, for the two protagonists, Mr Rowland and Mohamed Al Fayed, this

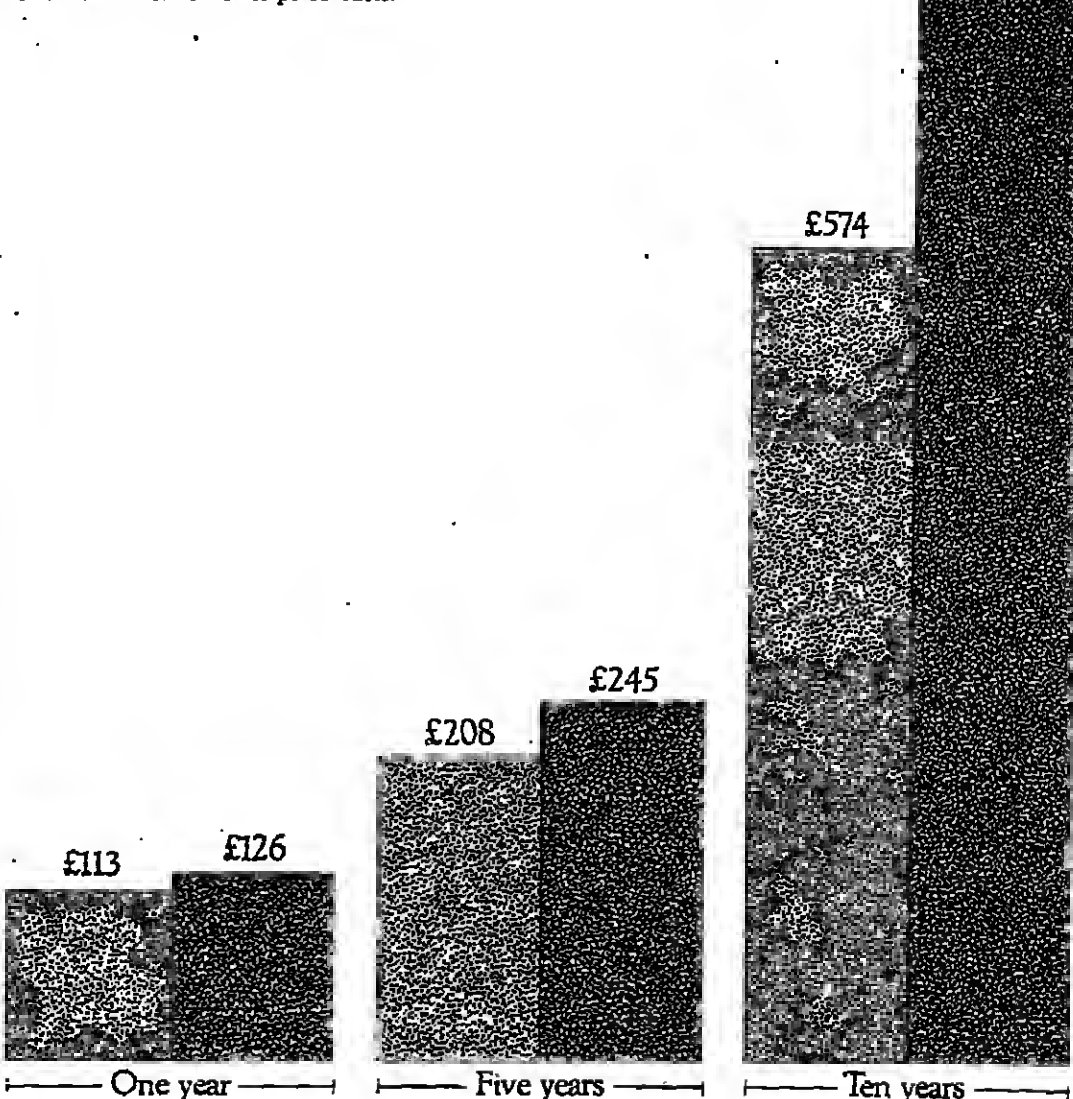
is a life-long contest. No quarter is asked and none is given. Tiny is a formidable and unrelenting adversary, as he recently demonstrated in driving the Bond Corporation to its knees.

I can think of no-one in this country who would now even stand up to him, let alone have any chance of winning. The exception is Mohamed who is not only a match for him but is well ahead on points.

When, if ever, the full story is told I doubt whether anyone in this country will believe it.

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Bricom sale earns £21m for B&C

British & Commonwealth has raised £21.6 million from the sale of the bulk of its 20 per cent stake in Bricom, the commercial services subsidiary sold to a management consortium for £400 million in June 1988. The proceeds compare with the original cost of the stake of £10.3 million.

Bricom's main activities are Bristow Helicopters and Steels, the in-flight caterer. The price reflects an 800 per cent rise in the value of its ordinary shares.

Offer closed

The international offer of new shares in France's Union des Assurances de Paris was fully subscribed and closed last night two weeks ahead of schedule. The French part of the £10.6 billion (£1.1 billion) issue is selling very slowly.

TSA idea

The Securities Association, the Stock Exchange regulatory body, is considering empowering its complaints bureau to order firms to pay compensation of up to £500 if they fail to deal responsibly with an investor's complaint.

Plan dropped

Benchmark Group has dropped plans to merge Charlton Seal Schavermans, its stockbroking arm, with National Investment Holdings. It will now be reorganized into three divisions.

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No.	Company	Group	Share Price
1	Deputy	Metals/Aircraft	100.00
2	Microfilm Repro	Electronics	100.00
3	Robinson (Thomas)	Industrial L-R	100.00
4	Boots (as)	Industrial A-D	100.00
5	New Corp	Newspapers/Pub	100.00
6	Uni-Bancs (as)	Food	100.00
7	Jardine Math	Industrial B-K	100.00
8	Alcan	Industrial A-D	100.00
9	RMC Gp (as)	Building/Roads	100.00
10	Pendragon	Metals/Aircraft	100.00
11	Harris (Philp)	Industrial B-K	100.00
12	Parsons	Industrial L-R	100.00
13	Land Sec (as)	Property	100.00
14	MSPC (as)	Property	100.00
15	Century	Oil/Gas	100.00
16	Harland Simon	Electronics	100.00
17	LASMO (as)	Oil/Gas	100.00
18	Bristley Inv	Industrial A-D	100.00
19	Merries (John)	Drugs/Stores	100.00
20	Charles Im	Industrial A-D	100.00
21	Enterprise (as)	Oil/Gas	100.00
22	Stocky	Building/Roads	100.00
23	Ladbrokes (as)	Horse/Casino	100.00
24	Community Hospital	Industrial A-D	100.00
25	Electron Home	Electronics	100.00
26	BEV Int (as)	Industrial L-R	100.00
27	BCC (as)	Industrial A-D	100.00
28	Raymond Williams	Building/Roads	100.00
29	TI (as)	Industrial S-Z	100.00
30	Fisons (as)	Industrial B-K	100.00
31	Unimor (as)	Oil/Gas	100.00
32	Smiths Ind (as)	Industrial S-Z	100.00
33	Wespac	Bank/Discount	100.00
34	Unilever (as)	Industrial S-Z	100.00
35	Williams Hodge (as)	Industrial S-Z	100.00
36	Grampian	Leisure	100.00
37	Budgen	Food	100.00
38	Tipton	Transport	100.00
39	Devis (Godfrey)	Industrial A-D	100.00
40	Southend Prop	Property	100.00
41	Spitby & Gop	Metals/Aircraft	100.00
42	McKinnon	Industrial L-R	100.00
43	GRN (as)	Industrial B-K	100.00

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MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

BRITISH FUNDS			
Fund Name	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

SHORTS (Under Five Years)			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

UNDATED			
Company	Price	Change	%
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INDEX-LINKED			
Company	Price	Change	%
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BANKS, DISCOUNT HP			
Company	Price	Change	%
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ELECTRICALS			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

DRAPERY, STORES			
Company	Price	Change	%
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HOTELS, CATERERS			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

INDUSTRIALS A-D			
Company	Price	Change	%
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OILS, GAS			
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TRANSPORT			
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MOTOR, AIRCRAFT			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

WATER			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

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BREWERIES			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

BUILDING, ROADS			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

FINANCE, LAND			
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100000 High Low Stock			

HOTELS, CATERERS			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

INDUSTRIALS A-D			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

OILS, GAS			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

TRANSPORT			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

TOBACCO			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

SHOES, LEATHER			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

TEXTILES			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

MOTOR, AIRCRAFT			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

WATER			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

BREWERIES			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

BUILDING, ROADS			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

FINANCE, LAND			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

FINANCIAL TRUSTS			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

FOODS			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

L-R			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

DRAPERY, STORES			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

HOTELS, CATERERS			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

INDUSTRIALS A-D			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

OILS, GAS			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

TRANSPORT			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

TOBACCO			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

SHOES, LEATHER			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

TEXTILES			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

MOTOR, AIRCRAFT			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

WATER			
Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

Portfolio PLATINUM

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WEEKLY DIVIDEND
£4,000

Claims required for +174 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

OVERSEAS TRADERS

Company	Price	Change	%
100000 High Low Stock			

</

● Ex dividend, a Cum dividend, a Cum stock split, a Ex stock split, a Cum all (any two or more of above), a Ex all (any two or more of above), Dealing or valuation days: (1) Monday, (2) Tuesday, (3) Wednesday, (4) Thursday, (5) Friday.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

1 week: 15-14% 1 mth: 15¹⁰₁₀-15 3 mths: 15¹⁰₁₀-15% Call: 6%-5%
8 mths: 15¹⁰₁₀-15 9 mths: 15¹⁰₁₀-15 12 mths: 15¹⁰₁₀-15
Local Authority Discounts (%)

THIRD MARKET

PL	142	80	..	4.7
PL Group	145	145	..	5.7

01-481 1920

FAMILY MONEY

FAMILY MONEY

Money unit trusts make the most of a tax loophole to give big savings to small investors..... Page 31

National & Provincial has a three-year fixed rate mortgage at 13.85 per cent. The Leeds Permanent's 13.35 per cent three-year plan has sold out.

Gartmore's Japan Warrant Fund, also registered in Luxembourg, has fallen more than 22 per cent since January. Mr Bruce Seton, a director of Gartmore Investment Management, said the fund

Dealing days: heavy losses on the Tokyo Stock Exchange took their toll on offshore funds

was still 8.75 times up on its launch in January 1986. On the day of the peak, it peaked at \$10.90, including a dividend of 30 cents, and was trading at \$8.28 on Thursday, after a second 30 cents payout. An investment of \$5,000 at launch would have paid out a dividend of 30 cents, and been worth \$41,400 at the peak. Mr Seton said: "The warrant market probably peaked in December and has been drifting off since then. The index is off 10 per cent, the fund would be 30 per cent on a going 30 per cent basis."

Due to their volatility, UK funds can only put up to 5 per cent of their assets into yen.

The Halifax has a top rate of 12.25 per cent net on its Capital XtraAccount. Leeds Permanent pays 12.5 per cent net monthly on £25,000 in Special Edition, its 12-month term account. The Woolwich pays 12.5 per cent on £10,000 in its one-year term account. Lloyds Bank has launched a fixed rate deposit account paying 12 per cent net on £5,000. On £50,000, the account pays gross interest of 15.4 per cent.

Business has been slow for nit trusts and in its first 15 months the ombudsman has handled just 45 cases, deciding six in favour of complainants.

"They are reluctant to pay yet again for the unit trust ombudsman," he said, suggesting that if Imro reduced its subscription this would be an

Asked whether he would favour the idea of grading unit trusts by degree of risk, as recommended by the Securities and Investment Board, Mr Parsons said he had not really thought about it: "I am very new to this work," he said.

"A lot of people are encouraging a lemming-like frenzy," says Mr. David

"Forceful deadline selling does not serve the interests of any financial institution," says Mr. Blundell.

Year	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Month Total
1	+1	+6	+6	+3	+2			
2	+1	+2	+7	+6	+1			
3	+5	+4	+5	+4	+3			
4	+1	+6	+5	+4	+4			
5	+7	+3	+4	+4	+2			
6	+1	+1	+6	+5	+2			
7	+2	+3	+3	+3	+4			
8	+1	+7	+4	+3	+2			
9	+6	+3	+4	+3	+1			
10	+3	+2	+3	+3	+5			
11	+2	+1	+5	+2	+4			
12	+7	+3	+3	+4	+2			
13	+2	+2	+2	+2	+3			
14	+2	+3	+7	+5	+1			
15	+1	+5	+6	+2	+3			
16	+5	+3	+4	+3	+2			
17	+2	+6	+4	+4	+8			
18	+7	+3	+3	+5	+1			
19	+1	+3	+7	+6	+1			
20	+1	+5	+5	+3	+3			
21	+5	+3	+4	+5	+2			
22	+1	+2	+6	+5	+1			
23	+2	+2	+3	+3	+2			
24	+1	+2	+6	+6	+1			
25	+1	+6	+4	+4	+4			
26	+5	+5	+5	+4	+2			
27	+2	+2	+3	+2	+2			
28	+2	+1	+6	+7	+1			
29	+2	+7	+5	+3	+2			
30	+1	+2	+8	+7	+1			
31	+5	+5	+3	+5	+1			
32	+2	+2	+7	+5	+2			
33	+1	+3	+2	+3	+5			
34	+1	+5	+5	+4	+3			
35	+1	+6	+4	+3	+2			
36	+2	+1	+2	+4	+3			
37	+7	+3	+7	+7	+2			
38	+1	+3	+4	+4	+4			
39	+5	+5	+5	+3	+3			
40	+2	+1	+3	+3	+2			
41	+2	+5	+6	+3	+2			
42	+5	+3	+6	+4	+3			
43	+3	+2	+3	+8	+5			
44	+1	+2	+6	+6	+1			

What is responsible for this happy state of affairs?

£65,152

£57.838

£43.776

*Planned Savings Survey of regular contributors, 20 year, with-profits personal pensions - July 1989


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**Planned Savings Survey of regular contribution, 20 year, with-profits personal pensions - July 1989*


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FAMILY MONEY

Nick Mathiason uncovers a dear way of paying for insurance

A burden on home cover

Homeowners could be paying too much for their buildings and contents insurance from building societies if their policy is debited monthly along with their mortgage.

Both the Halifax and the Bradford & Bingley have confirmed they charge interest on home and contents insurance at an approaching 32 per cent. This figure is reached by combining the current average mortgage rate of 15.4 per cent plus an Annual Percentage Rate (APR) of about 16.7 per cent.

So a homeowner would find himself paying interest at 15.4 per cent on his total monthly mortgage and household insurance outlay. He would also have the added burden of paying an APR on his insurance.

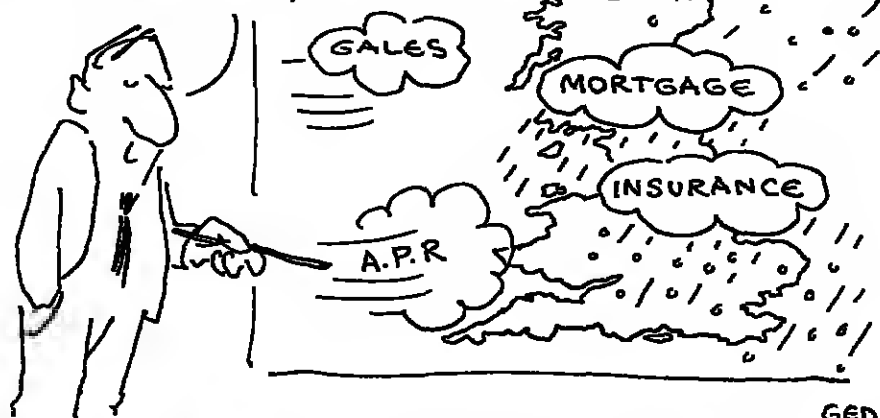
According to Mr John Brownhill, chairman of Brownhill, Morris and West, a London insurance broker, the result is that the public can face premiums of up to £1200 per year which are "double what they should be paying."

Mr Brownhill is concerned that there are thousands of people in this situation.

He said: "We see this sort of thing all the time and I think it's quite scandalous. It's fine if the public is aware of this but very often, they're not. These people are merely money lenders but they're selling policies which are grossly inflated."

He added: "It might seem easier to pay your insurance

... and even greater dangers, to the homeowner, on the way



GED.

together with your mortgage but with so many people in mortgage arrears, inflated policies are simply adding to the problem."

The British Insurance and Investment Broker's Association (BIIBA) has urged all consumers to tread warily when taking up buildings and contents insurance with building societies.

A spokesman explained: "Most building societies offer borrowers, a variety of alternative ways of spreading the cost of household insurance over the year."

"They also provide a further alternative which is to add the premium to the monthly mortgage payment," he added. "BIIBA strongly

recommends the public to avoid this option which is extremely expensive, especially in the current atmosphere of high interest rates."

"We paid out the premiums like a lamb," explained one disgruntled customer of the Bradford & Bingley.

"But when I saw how much the premiums were rising after every year, I became very concerned. We were paying about £1200. I realise it was partly our negligence for not looking into the matter but we were just unaware of the exact nature of the policy," he added.

But a spokesman for the Building Societies Association had little consolation for wor-

ried customers. "We have nothing to say on this matter. It's up to the individual building societies concerned."

The Bradford & Bingley was quick to deny this practice is causing unnecessary distress to a public already preoccupied with paying record mortgage bills.

"As far as we are concerned, charging interest on home insurance is a widespread practice among building societies," said Mr Tony James, Bradford & Bingley's home insurance marketing manager.

"We are by no means alone on this. The choice is entirely the customer's as to how he pays off his insurance. After all, he does have the option of paying off in one lump sum."

Baring their souls — by post

With more than 1,300 unit trusts on the market, independent salesmen who are supposed to survey them all before recommending any should be eager for short cuts.

Or so Mr Alan Kelly, the managing director of Grant Thornton Personal Financial Planning, would seem to think.

He recently sent invitations to 18,000 financial advisers to subscribe £1,950 a year for his *Unitrends* unit trust handbook, with recommendations for 100 selected funds.

Mr Kelly makes much of his close relationship with fund managers, asking in his promotional material: "Why do the fund managers agree to bare their souls to me? ... because we have invested so much money for clients that managers know we are big potential business procedures. 'I try to assess the manager's philosophy. I have to be confident that even if a unit trust has performed well in the past, it will continue to do so in the future."

"Anyone can look at statistics, but it

could be that those results were achieved by another fund manager altogether," he adds.

Of three fund managers named in the handbook approached at random, one recalled meeting Mr Kelly over a number of years and expressed respect for his thorough questioning.

The second recalled meeting him over lunch, but denied that he had been seen as a big business producer.

"Nobody is these days. 'We will see anybody for an hour or so, provided they are from a respectable house and if it's not too often,' he said.

The third manager, Mr David Felder of Kleinwort Benson Gilt Yield Trust, said that he had not met Mr Kelly: "Perhaps he has not got round to me yet," he suggested.

Mr Kelly said that he relies on questionnaires as well as personal interviews and had received a completed form from Kleinwort Benson.

His handbook comment on Mr Felder was: "A fund manager has considerable

back-up in the form of several fixed-interest managers and dealers. 'I don't think you could say any less of any fund manager in the City,' said Mr Felder.

Although Mr Kelly stresses that "it is simply not enough to rely on the funds' own publicity machines," he delivers a number of blandly glowing opinions, ranging from "manager clearly has exceptional ability" to "appears to have considerable ability" while "considerable ability" seems to be slightly lower down the scale.

But brokers who pay up for the Grant Thornton service will not be receiving the full story, according to Mr Kelly.

He explains that because of the confidential and sensitive nature of much of the information he acquires at meetings and discussions with fund managers, "it would often not be judicious to state everything in writing."

Still, he says that the information is reflected in his recommendations.

Barbara Ellis

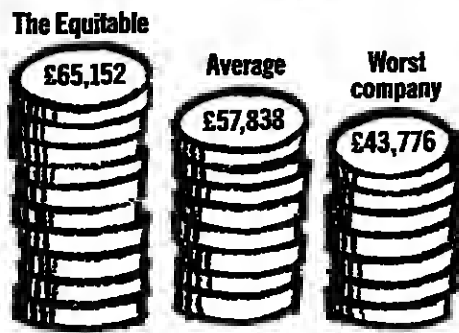
This year thousands will buy the wrong pension plan. Don't be one of them.

The remarkably successful performance of The Equitable (compared with our worst competitor) could have reaped an extra 48% of pension fund for retiring holders of an Equitable with-profits personal pension plan, having paid regular contributions for 20 years.

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THE EQUITABLE LIFE
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*Source: *Planned Savings* July 1989

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Source: **Microcap* 1.180 to 1.190, offer to bid with net income reinvested. Over 5 years the Trust ranked No. 2 **£2,400 invested on 1st January each year from 1980 to 1989 with performance figures for the period 1.180 to 1.250 offer to bid, gives income reinvested. The same amount invested in each of the last 5 years would have returned £20,981.



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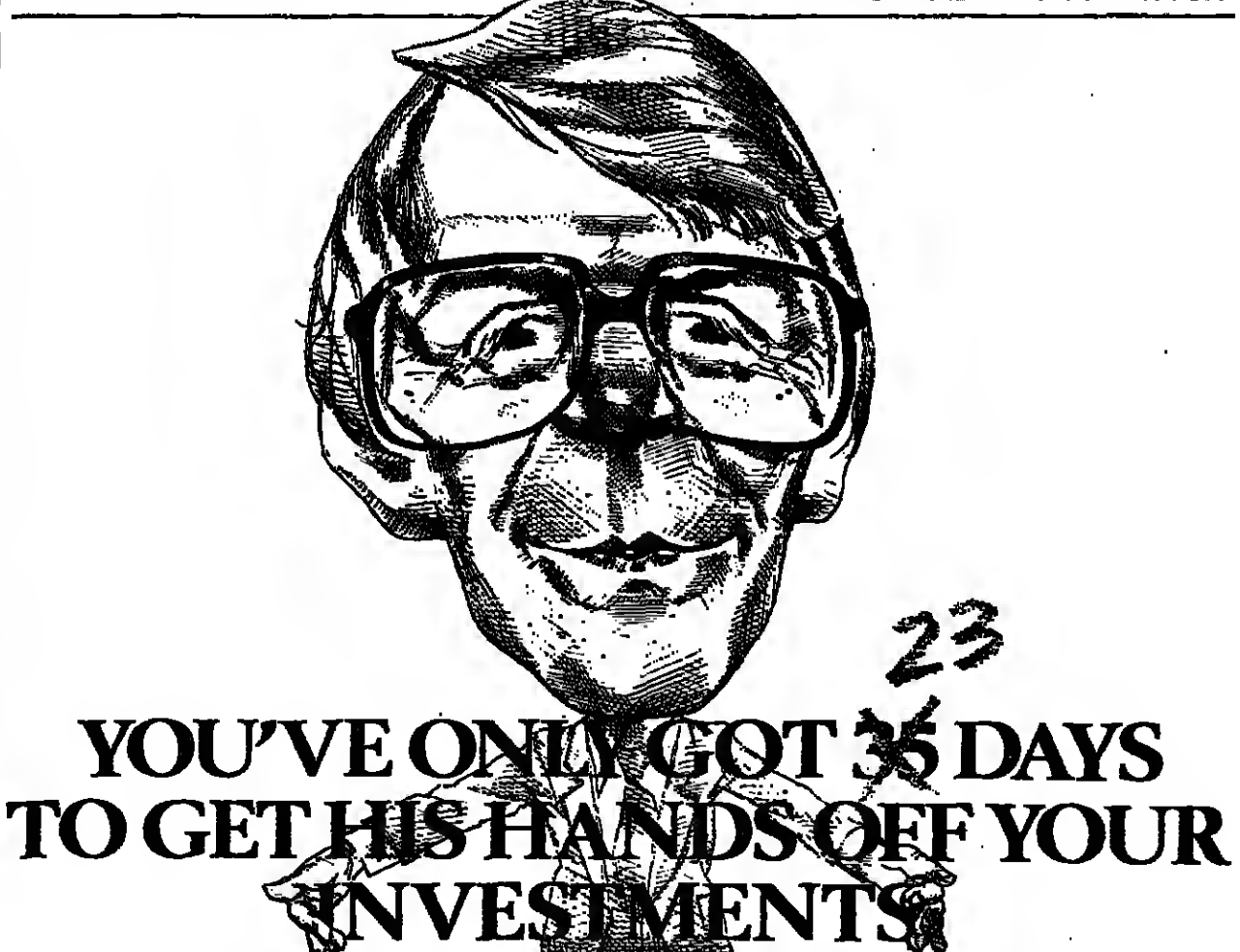
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Past performance is no guarantee of future returns. The value of a PEP may go down as well as up, therefore the investor may not get back the amount originally invested. Tax assumptions are subject to statutory change and the value of tax relief will depend on the circumstances of the investor.

Source: **Money Management* April 1989 Managed Fund Sector Performance. ***Money Management* May 1989.

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ACT BEFORE
5TH APRIL

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M&G RECOVERY

This unit trust follows a speculative policy; investing in the shares of companies which are going through a difficult period. The Managers are continually seeking new holdings to replace those where the prospects of recovery appear to have been fulfilled or where they seem to have been unfounded. Capital growth is the sole objective and yield considerations are ignored.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £1,000 invested at the launch of M&G Recovery Fund on 23rd May 1969, with gross income reinvested.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G RECOVERY	BUILDING SOCIETY
23 May '69	£1,000	£1,000
1970	£1,200	£1,138
1975	£2,896	£1,816
1980	£12,144	£3,192
1985	£33,848	£5,693
29 DEC '89	£93,384	£8,652*

NOTES All figures include reinvested gross income. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Recovery figures are all realisation values. An investment of £1,000 in M&G Recovery Fund on 23rd May 1969 would have grown to £93,384 by 29th December 1989. Trustee: Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited. *Estimated.

M&G DIVIDEND

Designed for investors whose primary requirement is an above average and increasing income. The Fund's objective is to provide a yield about 50% higher than that of the FT Actuarial All-Share Index. It invests in a wide selection of ordinary shares, mainly in the UK.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £1,000 invested at the launch of M&G Dividend Fund on 6th May 1964, with gross income reinvested.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G DIVIDEND	BUILDING SOCIETY
6 May '64	£1,000	£1,000
1965	£1,112	£1,106
1970	£1,606	£1,606
1975	£3,460	£2,562
1980	£7,806	£4,504
1985	£30,030	£8,031
29 DEC '89	£71,424	£12,206*

NOTES All figures include reinvested gross income. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Dividend figures are all realisation values. An investment of £1,000 in M&G Dividend Fund on 6th May 1964 would have grown to £71,424 by 29th December 1989. Trustee: Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited. *Estimated.

M&G SECOND GENERAL

The Fund's objective is consistent long-term growth of both income and capital. It may invest in any section of British industry or commerce and may include a proportion of overseas holdings. It aims to produce a yield in line with that of the FT Actuarial All-Share Index.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £1,000 invested at the launch of M&G Second General Fund on 5th June 1956, with gross income reinvested.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G SECOND	BUILDING SOCIETY
5 June '56	£1,000	£1,000
1960	£2,102	£1,298
1965	£3,617	£1,742
1970	£5,865	£2,529
1975	£10,748	£4,036
1980	£28,516	£7,095
1985	£84,920	£12,652
29 DEC '89	£178,098	£19,228*

NOTES All figures include reinvested gross income. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Second General figures are all realisation values. An investment of £1,000 in M&G Second General on 5th June 1956 would have grown to £178,098 by 29th December 1989. Trustee: Lloyds Bank PLC. *Estimated.

M&G EXTRA YIELD

Designed for investors whose primary requirement is an above average and increasing income. The Fund's objective is to provide a yield about 60% higher than that of the FT Actuarial All-Share Index. It invests principally in the ordinary shares of UK companies.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £1,000 invested at the launch of M&G Extra Yield Fund on 19th November 1973, with gross income reinvested.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G EXTRA YIELD	BUILDING SOCIETY
19 Nov '73	£1,000	£1,000
1975	£1,360	£1,250
1980	£2,954	£2,198
1985	£10,032	£3,919
29 DEC '89	£25,276	£5,956*

NOTES All figures include reinvested gross income. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Extra Yield figures are all realisation values. An investment of £1,000 in M&G Extra Yield Fund on 19th November 1973 would have grown to £25,276 by 29th December 1989. Trustee: Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited. *Estimated.

M&G SMALLER COMPANIES

Designed to provide an investment in smaller companies, where good management can have most impact on earnings. The market in shares of smaller companies can be narrow and the share prices volatile, but investment in such shares can offer prospects of above average capital growth. A proportion of the Fund may be invested in the U.S. and unquoted securities. Yield is not a major factor and can be expected to be less than that provided by the FT Actuarial All-Share Index.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £1,000 invested at the launch of M&G Smaller Companies Fund on 27th September 1967, with gross income reinvested.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G SMALLER COMPANIES	BUILDING SOCIETY
27 Sept '67	£1,000	£1,000
1970	£1,402	£1,289
1975	£2,094	£2,056
1980	£7,818	£3,614
1985	£19,860	£6,445
29 DEC '89	£45,824	£9,795*

NOTES All figures include reinvested gross income. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Smaller Companies figures are all realisation values. An investment of £1,000 in M&G Smaller Companies Fund on 27th September 1967 would have grown to £45,824 by 29th December 1989. Trustee: Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited. *Estimated.

M&G MIDLAND & GENERAL

Invests in industrial and commercial companies, with particular emphasis on smaller companies operating in the Midlands and other regional centres. The Fund's objective is to produce steady growth of both income and capital, with a yield about 25% higher than the FT Actuarial All-Share Index.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £1,000 invested at the launch of M&G Midland & General Fund on 19th June 1956, with gross income reinvested.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G MIDLAND	BUILDING SOCIETY
19 June '56	£1,000	£1,000
1960	£2,244	£1,292
1965	£3,645	£1,734
1970	£5,308	£2,518
1975	£9,855	£4,018
1980	£22,221	£7,063
1985	£91,442	£12,595
29 DEC '89	£246,930	£19,141*

NOTES All figures include reinvested gross income. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Midland figures are all realisation values. An investment of £1,000 in M&G Midland & General on 19th June 1956 would have grown to £246,930 by 29th December 1989. Trustee: Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited. *Estimated.

PRICES AND YIELDS

On 29th December 1989 the offered prices and estimated gross current yields were

	Acc. Units	Yield	Spread	Max Spread
Recovery	959.9p	4.33%	5.44%	7.50%
Dividend	2265.5p	5.24%	5.44%	7.06%
Second	2369.7p	3.91%	5.66%	7.68%
Extra Yield	951.2p	5.35%	5.44%	7.05%
Smaller Companies	1971.5p	3.47%	5.44%	8.97%
Midland	2958.8p	4.73%	5.44%	8.04%

*Accumulation units were sub divided 20:1 on 12th February 1990.

HOW THE PLAN WORKS

LUMP SUM ONLY You can invest from £1,200 to £2,400 by cheque in any one tax year.

The whole of each contribution is invested in Accumulation units of the M&G unit trust you choose at the applicable offer price. Certificates are not issued in respect of the M&G PEP.

The net income earned on your investment in the fund is automatically reinvested, increasing the value of your units. Income tax is reclaimed on your behalf by M&G once a year and used to buy further units for you.

Although you are always the beneficial owner of your units, they will be registered in the name of M&G Financial Services Limited, the registered PEP manager and a member of IMRO. Your rights as a planholder are defined by the Terms and Conditions of The M&G Unit Trust Personal Equity Plan set out later.

UNIT PRICES

The "offer" price (at which units are bought from the unit trust manager) and the "bid" price (at which units are sold to the unit trust manager) are calculated every day by M&G Securities Limited under rules laid down by statutory regulations.

The prices of M&G unit trusts are usually worked out every morning as at 9.15 a.m. Units will normally be allocated to your plan at the offer price calculated after the Plan Manager has received your contribution.

CHARGES

There are no extra charges for an M&G PEP. All costs are absorbed within the normal charges of the unit trusts. The management charges on M&G unit trusts are a maximum of 5 per cent initially and 1 per cent annually. The management charges may only be increased with the consent of unitholders.

The Managers' annual charge, Trustee's fees currently 0.05% (in the case of Second General 0.05% on the first £20 million and 0.04% thereafter) (plus VAT) and Registrars' fees currently 0.08% (plus VAT) based on the Fund's mid-market value are deducted from gross income pro-rata on the first day of each Stock Exchange Account. The Managers' annual charge is 1% except for Dividend and Extra Yield which is 3% (which may increase to 1% upon three months notice to unitholders).

STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Twice each year we will send you a statement of

your account made up to 5 April and 5 October. This will show the transactions on your account during, and the number of units held and their value at the end of, each period.

We shall also send you regular Managers' reports on the unit trust in which you are building up your investment. These give a commentary on the progress of the trust, set out the full portfolio of shares, and give the accounts of the trust.

HOW CAN I WITHDRAW MY MONEY

When you wish to sell your holding, or part of it, you have only to write to M&G Financial Services Limited, Planned Savings Department, M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. We will then send you a cheque for the full bid value of the units you are cashing in, normally within a few days. Only written instructions will be accepted.

In due course we shall have available a system of regular automatic payments into your bank account.

CHOOSING YOUR UNIT TRUST

Because of the investment regulations governing unit trust PEPs, the choice of M&G funds available for our PEP has been restricted to six funds investing predominantly in UK ordinary shares. These funds offer a choice between high-yielding income funds, lower yielding capital growth funds and funds aiming for a balance between income and growth. All six funds have impressive performance records.

Each fund is managed by M&G Securities Limited,

M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB, from whom full scheme particulars and the most recent annual and half-yearly reports are available on request. Prices and yields of the funds are published every day in the *Financial Times*. Prices are also quoted in the *Daily Telegraph*, *Times*, *Independent* and *Guardian*.

Investors should remember that past performance does not guarantee future growth.

You should also remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up; you may not get back the amount you invested.

You should bear in mind that the tax regime of PEPs could change in the future.

CHANGING YOUR INVESTMENT

When you start your PEP, the whole of your contribution will buy units in the fund you choose. In the second and in each subsequent year you can choose a different fund from the list of those eligible, thus building up a portfolio of funds. In due course you will also be able to switch between funds.

HOW TO START A PLAN

Please read the notes and complete and return the application form together with your cheque. We will write to acknowledge receipt of your application, setting out the number of units acquired and their price, and enclosing the most recent half-yearly report of the fund you have chosen.

THE M&G UNIT TRUST PERSONAL EQUITY PLAN

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1 DEFINITIONS

- (1) "Business Day" means a day on which the Managers of an M&G Unit Trust make a price for the purchase and sale of Units.
- "Conditions" means these Terms and Conditions together with the application form as from time to time amended in accordance with the provisions hereof.
- "Crown Employee" means a person holding an office or employment under the Crown which is of a public nature and the emoluments of which are payable out of the public revenue of the United Kingdom or of Northern Ireland.
- "IMRO" means the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation Limited.
- "M&G Company" means M&G Financial Services Limited and any other company which is a subsidiary or holding company of it or which is a subsidiary of any such holding company for which purpose the expressions "subsidiary" and "holding company" have the same meanings as in section 736 of the Companies Act 1985.
- "Nominee" means any person designated by the Plan Manager under Condition 9 and who may be an Associate of the Plan Manager.
- "Ordinary Shares" means ordinary shares, not being shares in an investment trust, issued by a company which is incorporated in the United Kingdom and quoted on the official list of a recognised Stock Exchange in the United Kingdom or dealt in on the Unlisted Securities Market.
- "PEP Unit Trust" before 6th April 1990 means a Unit Trust and on and after 6th April 1990 means a Unit Trust in respect of which at least 75% in value of the investments (for the purposes of the Treasury Regulations) subject to the trusts thereof are investments which can be counted towards satisfaction of any statutory test for determining whether units in the Unit Trust will be qualifying investments for the purposes of the Treasury Regulations and for this purpose:
- (a) it shall be assumed that the Units are held in a Personal Equity Plan into which the Planholder has contributed one half of the subscription limit under the Treasury Regulations; and
- (b) investments which are units in a Unit Trust or shares in an investment trust (as defined in the Treasury Regulations) shall be counted to the extent that the investments held in the Unit Trust or investment trust could be so counted if held directly by the Unit Trust.
- "Plan" means a Personal Equity Plan effected under these Conditions by a Qualifying Individual.
- "Planholder" means an individual who has opened a Plan under these Conditions.
- "Plan Manager" means M&G Financial Services Limited.
- "Qualifying Individual" means an individual, aged 18 years or over, who has not (subject to the exception prescribed by the 1989 Treasury Regulations as regards rights issues) subscribed to any other Personal Equity Plan for the year or any of the years for or in respect of which he makes an application to open a Plan under these Conditions, and who is either resident and ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom or, although non-resident in the United Kingdom, performs duties as a Crown Employee which are treated as being performed in the United Kingdom.
- "1989 Treasury Regulations" means the regulations for Personal Equity Plans made on 14th March 1989 and any other regulations made from time to time by HM Treasury under the provisions of s. 333 and Schedule 29 to the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 and s. 149 of the Capital Gains Tax Act 1979.
- "Units" means Units in a Unit Trust held in a Plan and any fractions or decimals thereof (to the nearest one hundredth of a Unit above).
- "Unit Trust" means a unit trust scheme which is an authorised securities scheme as defined in the Authorised Unit Trust Scheme (Investment and Borrowing Powers) Regulations 1988 the manager of which is an M&G company in the case of which an order under Section 78 of the Financial Services Act 1986 is in force.
- "Year" means a year beginning on 6th April in any year and ending with 5th April in the following year.
- (2) References to any statutory provision or to regulations made thereunder include any modification or re-enactment thereof.
- (3) References to gender shall be taken to refer to either gender.
- (4) Headings are included for the purpose of guidance and are not part of these Conditions.
- (5) The application form shall be treated as part of these Conditions and in case of conflict shall have precedence.

2 INTRODUCTION

- (1) The Plan Manager is a member of IMRO and as such is regulated by IMRO in the conduct of its investment business.
- (2) The Plan Manager agrees to act as such in relation to all Plans covered by the application form.
- (3) The Plan Manager will from time to time make Units (whether Income Units or Accumulation Units) in Unit Trusts available for the purposes of Plans effected under these Conditions.
- (4) Subject to these Conditions the investment objective of the Planholder shall be taken to be to invest in the M&G Unit Trust indicated by the Planholder in his application form.

3 APPLICATIONS TO OPEN A PLAN

- (1) This Condition applies to applications to open a Plan made under the 1989 Treasury Regulations. In order to open a Plan, an individual must be a Qualifying Individual and must submit to the Plan Manager a duly completed application form and must sign the declaration set out in the form. The Applicant must also submit a cheque for an amount not in excess of the maximum permitted by law for that particular Year.

- (2) The Plan comes into force when the Planholder's application for the Plan has been accepted by the Plan Manager.
- (3) For this purpose the application will be treated as having been accepted (a) if the Plan Manager does not postpone acceptance of the application under any regulatory provision, (b) on receipt by the Plan Manager of a duly completed application form together with a cheque in respect of the cash subscription if they are received first post OR (c) on the day following receipt by the Plan Manager of a duly completed application form together with a cheque in respect of the cash subscription if they are received second post, and (d) if the Plan Manager sends a notice to the applicant that he intends to accept the application not earlier than any specified day following posting of the notice, on that specified day.
- (4) Unless the Applicant indicates otherwise in his application form, the form will be taken to authorise contributions to be made to the Plan for each Year beginning in the Year in which the application is made unless and until either the Planholder or the Plan Manager notifies the other in writing to the contrary. The Plan will be governed by these Conditions, as varied in accordance with Condition 14 below.

4 CONTRIBUTIONS

- (1) Except as permitted by law a Planholder may contribute to only one Personal Equity Plan each Year.
- (2) A total of not more than the maximum permitted by law for a particular Year can be contributed to a Plan during that Year.
- (3) Contributions must be of an amount of the Planholder's cash paid directly to the Plan Manager.
- (4) If at any time a Planholder ceases to be a Qualifying Individual he shall not thereafter make any contributions to a Plan.

5 CHOICE OF UNIT TRUST

- (1) Subject to this Condition, the Planholder's contributions will be applied by the Plan Manager in the purchase of Units of the Unit Trust which the Planholder has selected in his application form.
- (2) With effect from a date to be determined by the Plan Manager and notified to Planholders, the Planholder may by written notice to the Plan Manager (of a length to be determined by the Plan Manager in its notice) direct that future contributions to the Plan shall be applied by the Plan Manager in the purchase of Units other than the Units specified in the application form.
- (3) From a date to be determined by the Plan Manager and notified to Planholders the Planholder may by written notice to the Plan Manager (of a length to be determined by the Plan Manager in its notice) direct that Units in the Plan shall be sold and the proceeds of sale applied in the purchase of other Units.
- (4) This Condition does not apply to the application of any contribution if, at the time the purchase is to be made, the Unit Trust is not a PEP Unit Trust. In these circumstances Units in the M&G Dividend Fund or the M&G Midland & General Fund will be purchased as described in Condition 6 below.

6 INVESTMENT

- (1) The following, namely (a) contributions received from Planholders; (b) tax repayments received in respect of the Units; (c) the proceeds of sale of any Units; (d) any income and distributions from Units and cash deposits held in the Plan; (e) any sums received on the termination (otherwise than by way of reconstruction or amalgamation) of a Unit Trust will be credited to a sterling cash account maintained by the Plan Manager with any authorised institution with the meaning of the Banking Act 1987 and will be applied by the Plan Manager:
- (i) within ten days of being received and
- (ii) at all times in accordance with the 1989 Treasury Regulations but (iii) not unless Condition 6 (2) and (3) permit the purchase of Units or further Units in a PEP Unit Trust.
- (2) The Plan Manager will apply all such amounts in the purchase of Units selected by the Planholder in accordance with Condition 5 above, so long as the Unit Trust in which the investment is to be made continues to be a PEP Unit Trust. If at any time the Unit Trust ceases to be a PEP Unit Trust, the Plan Manager will apply all such amounts in the purchase of Accumulation Units in the M&G Dividend Fund provided that it is a PEP Unit Trust at the time when the purchase is to be made, but if it is not then a PEP Unit Trust in the purchase of Accumulation Units in the M&G Midland & General Fund provided that it is then a PEP Unit Trust. If at any time a Plan includes Units in a Unit Trust which is not a PEP Unit Trust, the Units will be sold and the proceeds dealt with in accordance with Condition 6 (1) and (2) above.
- (3) All purchases and sales of Units will be made by the Plan Manager at the applicable offer price or bid price of the particular Unit Trust.

7 TAX REPAYMENTS

- The Plan Manager will make all necessary claims for repayment of tax relating to the Units in accordance with the Treasury Regulations.

8 BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

- (1) The Planholder will at all times be the beneficial owner of the Units and of any rights and cash sums from time to time held in the Plan.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of (1) above, the Planholder will not dispose of or transfer any interest in such Units or any such cash sums, and will not create (or have outstanding) any charge or security on or over any such Units or any such cash sums.

9 REGISTRATION OF UNITS

- (1) Units will be registered in the name of the Plan Manager or, if the Plan Manager so designates, in the name of a Nominee.
- (2) The Planholder hereby authorises the Plan Manager to issue all such directions and instructions to any Nominees as the Plan Manager considers appropriate for the discharge of the Plan Manager's responsibilities under these Conditions and accepts that the Plan Manager will not be responsible for the defaults of the Nominee.
- (3) All documents of or evidencing title in respect of the Units and any cash will be held by or to the order of the Plan Manager.
- (4) Units may not be lent to any third party and no borrowing may be made against the security of Units.

10 PLANHOLDERS RIGHTS

- The Plan Manager will arrange for the Planholder to be sent the annual accounts of the Unit Trust or each Unit Trust, Units in which are held in the Plan, together with the reports issued by the Managers of each Unit Trust.

11 VOTING RIGHTS ATTACHING TO UNITS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- (1) The Planholder may by an appropriate indication in the space provided in the application form elect:
- (a) to attend meetings of Unitholders of the Unit Trust, Units in which are held in the Plan, and
- (b) to exercise voting rights attaching to such Units, and
- (c) to receive any information issued to Unitholders in addition to the documents referred to in Condition 10 above until the election is withdrawn by written notice given by the Planholder to the Plan Manager.
- (2) Notwithstanding (1) above, the Planholder may on giving one month's prior written notice to the Plan Manager elect to exercise the rights and receive the additional information referred to therein until the election is withdrawn by written notice given by the Planholder to the Plan Manager.

12 STATEMENTS

- (1) The Period of Account for the purposes of this Condition will be the six months ending on 5th October and 5th April in every Year, and for each such period in which he is required to do so by the rules of IMRO the Plan Manager will send to the Planholder a Plan Statement prepared by reference to the last day in that period. The first Period of Account shall commence when the first contribution is made and will end on the commencement of the next complete Period of Account.
- (2) The Plan Statement will include all the information which the Plan Manager is required to give by the 1989 Treasury Regulations and the rules of IMRO.
- (3) In relation to the purchase or disposal of Units the Plan Statement will include all the information which the Plan Manager would have had to include in contract notes under the IMRO Rules had contract notes been sent to the Planholder under the IMRO Rules.
- (4) The Plan Manager will, if the Planholder requests it to do so give sight of, and supply to the Planholder copies of, all entries in its books relating to the Plan.

13 INFORMATION FOR PLAN MANAGER

- (1) The Planholder will supply the Plan Manager with all information which the Plan Manager reasonably requests for the purposes of the Plan, and in particular will promptly inform the Plan Manager of any change in his home address.
- (2) The Planholder will immediately inform the Plan Manager in writing if he ceases to be resident and ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom, or if, whilst non-resident, he ceases to perform duties as a Crown Employee.

14 VARIATIONS AND AMENDMENTS

- The Plan Manager may at any time and from time to time by written notice to the Planholder make such changes in and to these Conditions as it shall determine provided that no such change shall be made which results in the Plan ceasing to qualify under the 1989 Treasury Regulations, and any such changes will be notified to Planholders in such manner as the Plan Manager considers appropriate.

15 GOVERNING LAW

- These Conditions and the relationship between the Plan Manager and the Planholder shall be governed by English law.

16 INDEMNITY

- The Planholder hereby agrees for himself and his personal representatives to indemnify the Plan Manager and the Nominee and at all times to keep the Plan Manager and the Nominee indemnified in respect of all liabilities, taxes, costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Plan Manager and the Nominee (except where caused by their own negligence) in connection with the establishment, administration and termination of the Plan and any investment or deposit made thereunder.

17 TERMINATION, WITHDRAWALS AND OTHER MATTERS

- (1) Subject to this Condition, the Plan Manager may at any time and at its discretion make a written request to the Planholder to select Units in another Unit Trust for the purposes of his Plan and for the purposes of Condition 5 above the Planholder shall be assumed to have selected such Units in his application form. If within seven days of having made such a request or such longer period as the request shall specify and if the request shall propose termination under this Condition, the Plan Manager has not received a written selection of other Units from the Planholder, the Plan will terminate automatically.
- (2) A Plan may be terminated with immediate effect by the Plan Manager giving written notice of termination to the Planholder if it becomes impossible to comply with the 1989 Treasury Regulations, and the Plan will terminate automatically with immediate effect if it becomes void under the 1989 Treasury Regulations.
- (3) A Planholder may at any time by written request to the Plan Manager and

without prejudice to (2) above direct the Plan Manager:

- (a) to pay or transfer to him all or any of the Units comprised in the Plan (or the proceeds of sale thereof) and the whole or part of any cash balance and any other rights held in the Plan or
- (b) within such time as shall be agreed between the Planholder and the Plan Manager to transfer the Plan to another plan manager who fulfils the conditions in the 1989 Treasury Regulations, is approved by the Board of Inland Revenue to act as a plan manager, and agrees to accept the transfer.
- (4) Subject to (3) above, termination shall take place immediately but without prejudice to the completion of transactions already initiated.
- (5) The Plan Manager will give reasonable written notice to the Planholder of his intention to cease to act as a Plan Manager stating when he will cease to act so that the Planholder can give a direction under (3) above. If after the Plan Manager gives the Planholder notice under this Condition the Planholder fails to give the Plan Manager a direction under Condition 17(3) above before the Plan Manager ceases to act as such, the Plan will also terminate.
- (6) Where the Plan terminates pursuant to (2) above or any such direction is given as is mentioned in (3) above and, unless the Planholder specifies otherwise and within such time as the Plan Manager specifies, the Plan Manager will sell or realise the Units (or in a case to which (3)(a) of this Condition applies the Units in respect of which the direction has been given) and will pay or transfer the proceeds of sale and any cash balance and any other rights, as appropriate, to the Planholder or to the new plan manager.
- (7) Notwithstanding (2) and (3) above, the Plan Manager may deduct from the amount of any such payment or transfer:
- (a) any sums due to the Plan Manager pursuant to these Conditions and
- (b) except where the Plan is being transferred to another plan manager a sum determined by the Plan Manager to represent the tax liabilities of the Planholder or those of his personal representatives in connection with the Plan for which the Plan Manager is or may be accountable under the 1989 Treasury Regulations.
- (8) Notwithstanding that a Plan has been terminated in whole or in part or that a direction has been given to transfer the Plan to another plan manager, these Conditions shall apply until all outstanding transactions and liabilities have been performed and discharged.

18 DEATH

- (1) The Plan shall terminate automatically on the Planholder's death.
- (2) Notwithstanding (1) above and subject to (3) below, the authority of the Plan Manager and the Nominee (if any) will not be affected by the death of the Planholder and accordingly these Conditions shall be binding on the Planholder's personal representatives.
- (3) Subject to such formalities as the Plan Manager may specify, it shall pay or transfer the Units and any cash balance to or to the order of the Planholder's personal representatives.
- (4) Condition 17(6) and (7) shall apply to any payment made under (3) above.

19 FEES

- (1) The Manager (which is an associate of the Plan Manager for the purposes of the IMRO Rules) of Unit Trusts in which the Plan invests contributions, will receive the initial charge included in the offer price of Units acquired for the Plan, and the annual management charges of Unit Trusts, Units in which are held in the Plan and any other expenses and charges which are permitted to be paid to the Manager of the Unit Trust out of the property of the Unit Trust.
- (2) The Manager of the Unit Trust referred to in (1) above will at the appropriate times pay the Plan Manager sums equivalent to the initial charge and the annual management fee attributable to the Units.
- (3) The Plan Manager will out of such sums make any payments to M&G Investment Management Limited (which is an associate of the Plan Manager for the purposes of the IMRO Rules) in respect of investment management relating to Units held in the Plan which would otherwise have been paid by the Manager of the Unit Trust.
- (4) Subject as provided in (1) and (2) above, the Plan Manager will not make or receive any charges in connection with the opening, administration or termination of the Plan.

20 TREASURY REGULATIONS

- The Plan Manager will notify the Planholder if by reason of any failure to satisfy the provisions of the 1989 Treasury Regulations the Plan has or will become void.

21 NOTICES OR REQUESTS

- Notices or requests made by the Planholder to the Plan Manager shall be in writing and will be acknowledged by the Plan Manager in writing or by telephone.

22 COMPLAINTS

- The Plan Manager operates a written complaints procedure in accordance with the IMRO Rules. The Planholder may address a complaint to the Plan Manager or to IMRO.

23 COMPENSATION

- In the event that the Plan Manager is not able to meet its financial liabilities to the Planholder, the Planholder will be entitled to compensation under the Investors' Compensation Scheme established under the Financial Services Act 1986.

24 THE FINANCIAL SERVICES ACT

- The Financial Services (Cancellation) Rules 1989 do not apply to these transactions.

NOTES TO HELP YOU IN COMPLETING THE M&G UNIT TRUST PEP APPLICATION FORM

- Note 1** Please give your daytime telephone number so that if a query arises in relation to your form we can contact you at once and speed up the processing of your application. No salesmen will call.
- Note 2** National Insurance Number (NINO). If you are a married woman you should supply your own NINO and if you know them, your own tax district and reference number. You should NOT supply those of your husband. An applicant who cannot supply a NINO may obtain one from the DSS using either form CFB if a NINO is required for the first time or form CF88 if the NINO issued has been lost or cannot be remembered. These forms can only be obtained from DSS offices. A National Pension Number, where applicable, is an acceptable alternative if you are unable to provide a NINO. A National Health Number is NOT acceptable.
- Note 3** The application form is designed to allow you to contribute to your M&G PEP tax year after tax year without having to complete a new application form. In the case of a form such as this which allows for contributions to be made year after year it is necessary to include these continuing declarations. You can stop contributing to your M&G PEP at any time. If you delete the wording in the form where indicated then your M&G PEP will not automatically continue in the subsequent tax year and these declarations will only apply to the period ending 5th April 1990. If you subsequently wish to contribute to your M&G PEP in future tax years, you will need to complete a new application form.
- Note 4** Your M&G PEP is invested in Accumulation units. Certificates are not issued in respect of the M&G PEP. Details of your investment will be shown in the acknowledgement which will be sent to you once your application has been accepted. It is therefore important that you retain the acknowledgement for your records. Please also retain the Terms and Conditions set out above. **Correctly completed application forms and cheques must be received at our Chelmsford Office by first post on 5th April 1990 to qualify for the 1989/90 tax year. Applications received on this form after that time will be returned.**

LITERATURE

To: The M&G Group, M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1PB. Tel: (0245) 266266. (Business Hours).

Please send me a free copy of the M&G Year Book.

Mr/Mrs/Miss	INITIALS	SURNAME
ADDRESS		
POSTCODE		ECGJ

ACT BEFORE 5TH APRIL

To: M&G Financial Services Limited, Planned Savings Department, M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1PB. Reg. Office: Registered in England No. 923891

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Mr/Mrs/Miss	Full Forenames
Surname	
Permanent Address	
Postcode	
Daytime Telephone No: (See Note 1)	

IMPORTANT: Your application cannot be accepted without your National Insurance Number or National Pension Number (See Note 2).

National Insurance No.	
National Pension No.	
Tax District (if known)	
Reference No. (if known)	

I wish to open an M&G Unit Trust Personal Equity Plan for the tax year ending 5 April 1990.

I wish the Plan to continue for each subsequent tax year (delete this clause if your Plan is only for the year indicated above - see Note 3).

Fund selected: (Circle one only of the following six funds)

DIVIDEND	EXTRA YIELD	RECOVERY
SMALLER COMPANIES	MIDLAND & GENERAL	SECOND GENERAL

No application can be accepted unless a fund is selected.

I understand that the maximum contribution is £2,400 in any tax year (5 April to 5 April).

I wish to contribute by cheque made payable to M&G Financial Services Limited, minimum £1,200, maximum £2,400

If you wish to attend and vote at Unitholder meetings and to receive additional information issued to Unitholders please tick this box.

I agree that the Personal Equity Plan opened by the Plan Manager pursuant to this Application, will be governed by the Terms and Conditions applicable to M&G Unit Trust Personal Equity Plans. I understand that a copy of the Terms and Conditions is available to me, and I agree to be bound by them in all respects.

I declare that:

- (a) I am aged 18 years or over.
- (b) I am resident and ordinarily resident in the UK for tax purposes.
- (c) I have not applied to subscribe for and have not made payments to any other Personal Equity Plan in or for the current tax year nor for any subsequent tax year. (See Note 3).
- (d) I will not subscribe to any Personal Equity Plan for any tax year for which I subscribe or shall subscribe to this Plan. (See Note 3).

I agree to inform M&G Financial Services Limited promptly of any change in my circumstances which affects any of this information.

I hereby authorise M&G Financial Services Limited:

- (a) to hold my cash subscriptions and the Plan investments, distributions, interest, cash and other rights or proceeds received in respect of them in the Personal Equity Plan;
- (b) to make all appropriate claims for tax relief in respect of plan investments on my behalf;
- (c) on my written request to transfer or pay to me any Plan investments, interest, cash, distributions, rights or other proceeds in respect of such investments held in the Plan.

I hereby declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the above information is true and correct.

Signature _____ Date _____

This application is designed for individuals investing on their own behalf and is not for use by intermediaries. Your attention is drawn to the fact that in entering into this contract with M&G you will not have any right to cancel the contract under the Financial Services (Cancellation) Rules 1989.

MEMBER OF IMRO

M&G

ECGJ

THE M&G UNIT TRUST PERSONAL EQUITY PLAN

UNIT TRUSTS

A growing business with Budget hopes

Even less successful unit trusts perform better than building societies, Christine Stopp writes

Investors putting £1,000 into the middle-performing UK general unit trust in January 1973, then selling the units 15 years later in January 1988, would have got £6,302 back. A similar investment made in January 1985 and redeemed in January 1989 would have returned £21,042.

These two results represent something like the best and the worst figures in unit trust investment.

The earlier of the two terms started at a high before the deepest plunge of the 1970s crash and ended just after the 1987 crash.

The second started when the market was at the very bottom and ended after the damage of the 1987 crash had more than been repaired.



Ken Emery: tax clarification

You may not be able to guarantee the return on a unit trust, but even the lower of the two UK general fund figures was still a significant improvement on the performance of a building society, which would have returned £2,954 and £3,543 over the two periods respectively.

Over the long term, even the income record for unit trusts compares favourably with that of a building society account.

Recent figures from the Unit Trust Association show that £1,000 invested in a building society in 1980 would have produced £114 income in the first year and £111 in the year to January 1990.

The average UK equity income trust would have paid distributions of £71 and £188 respectively in the same two years.

From 1983, the income from the unit trust was consistently greater than that from the society. In addition, the unit trust investment grew in capital value by almost 350 per cent.

The performance chart shows what the main geographical sectors have done during the 1980s, a period that produced a succession of dramatic returns, except in 1987 and 1988.

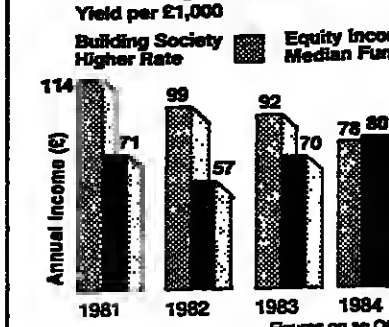
In the 1980s unit trusts also multiplied in number, from 459 at the start of 1980 to almost 1,400 now. The abolition of exchange controls at the end of 1979 made it much easier to invest overseas, and this produced a flood of trusts that invested in new markets.

The result is that investors today have an enormous range from which to choose, though, perversely, many people see this as a disadvantage, rather than an advantage.

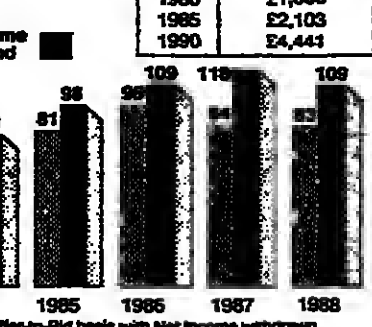
Unit trust managers have boldly gone where nobody would have dreamt of investing even five years ago.

Unit trusts are a recent high-risk addition to specialist funds. And this decade looks likely to offer further way-out possibilities. Latin American and East European funds are already available for the institutional investor, and it cannot be long before the public are offered a direct link to the action. This represents the yuppie end of unit trust

Growth in the 1980s: Unit Trusts and Building Societies



Growth in Capital Value



Figures on an Offer-to-Bid basis with Net Income withdrawn

PERFORMANCE IN THE 1980s (main sector averages, year-on-year averages)

UNIT TRUST SECTOR	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	10-year return (%) on £1,000
UK general	18.5	1.1	4.5	18.7	13.3	25.8	27.1	25.5	11.5	27.9	6.765	
UK growth	10.7	1.0	7.4	24.4	13.4	21.3	28.4	25.6	9.8	28.7	5.610	
UK equity inc	14.9	1.5	13.7	25.1	15.9	28.1	29.9	21.5	14.9	11.5	6.657	
International growth	25.8	6.7	-14.8	24.3	5.2	11.3	37.4	22.5	16.0	35.6	5.130	
North America	29.5	8.6	-25.9	4.9	2.2	6.0	30.8	37.7	12.0	36.1	4.080	
Europe	43.8	13.5	-32.6	42.4	44.5	17.6	53.3	18.5	10.6	0.7	6.682	
Japan	27.9	10.0	-2.1	58.9	0.6	23.9	-	-	-	-	12.339	

1981-1985 results are offer to bid, the rest offer to bid. No separate Japan figures before 1985. Source is Unit Trust Year Book, except the final column, which was supplied by the Unit Trust Association.

The spotlight is turned on Europe

Unit trust companies have never found it easy to sell to investors more at home with building society accounts than stocks and shares. So when the walls started coming down across Eastern Europe, the opportunity was too good to miss.

Save & Prosper inaugurated its European Smaller Markets unit trust in January. But although the trust was launched in Berlin, amid new year celebrations and talk of a reunified Germany, the trust

will stick to tried and tested markets for the time being.

Early investment will favour The Netherlands, Spain, France and West Germany — markets the managers describe as underdeveloped, under-researched and undercapitalized. Smaller Markets is free to invest in the East European economies, but has no plans to do so yet.

As an early indication, West Germany was likely to make up about a quarter of the portfolio, followed by France with 22 per cent and Spain

How the Eastern Bloc revolution brought the emphasis nearer home

with 19 per cent. The Netherlands would make up about 10 per cent, and smaller stakes were likely in Belgium, Switzerland, Norway, Portugal, Denmark and Italy.

Julian Tregoning, director of unit trusts and PEPs, says Europe is likely to take over from Japan and the Far East as the theme for the 1990s.

"Combine the European Community's single market approach with the recent dramatic events in Eastern Europe and the time must be right for investment in Europe," he says.

Chris Tracey, the investment director, says the vast majority of smaller European companies are under-researched.

"There are many companies out there which are well run, trading profitably and creating the right products for Europe," he says. "But 80 per cent of them remain totally unmonitored by European and UK investment houses and undervalued by the as yet inefficient European stock markets on which their shares are traded."

So far the message seems to have paid off. Savers invested £53 million with the trust during the launch period. Nearly 4,000 of the new investors were regular savers — something the unit trust industry is keen to encourage.

"Regular savers are important because no one can get their timing absolutely right," says Ken Emery, Save & Prosper's technical director. "Even if markets are a bit volatile, regular saving helps them to take the rough with the smooth. It's very encouraging to see so much."

Gartmore has launched a unit trust with Eastern Europe in mind. The Gartmore Euroventures Trust will invest in Western European companies looking for opportunities in the East.

These companies will aim to expand into or link with emerging European economies such as Poland, East Germany and Czechoslovakia. The fund is also free to invest directly on a selective basis.

Brian O'Neill, who is managing the fund, says there is a range of opportunities. "The democratization process in Eastern Europe has significant economic implications. Already some of the area's economies are moving away from state control to what we would regard as free-market, private-sector philosophies. "A lot has been written about the need for these



Julian Tregoning (left): new theme. Chris Tracey: good products



economies to acquire new external funding for capital investment programmes designed to overcome industrial and business inefficiencies, ranging from outdated factory plant to shortages of consumer goods. Much of the funding, capital investment and supply of equipment and know-how will flow from the economies of Western Europe."

West German telecommunications companies would be an obvious choice to back as only 16 per cent of East German homes have a telephone. Germany might

account for 35 per cent of a model portfolio, with investment in such companies as Volkswagen, Siemens and Metallgesellschaft. Austria and Italy could account for 20 per cent each, while UK companies such as APV and Telfos might make up 10 per cent. There is even scope for American giants such as General Electric.

Euroventures is on a special fixed-price offer of 25p per unit. There is a 1 per cent discount on applications until the offer closes on Wednesday. Jon Ashworth

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PEARL UNIT TRUSTS

Source Money Management Jan 1990

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UNIT TRUSTS/2

Helen Pridham finds prosperity and revolution have put Europe ahead



A market in the money: continuing prosperity in West Germany has helped keep the European sector unit trusts in favour

Right sector, right time

Many are the theories on choosing the best. But few recipes for success work as well as being in the right market or the right sector at the right time.

Hindsight over one year and five years shows that investors with unit trusts in overseas sectors had the best results. Not surprisingly, European funds achieved the highest average gains over one year. Eastern bloc changes have stimulated interest in European stock markets, especially in West Germany, recognizing the potential economic advantages to the Continent in general and Germany in particular. But, even before the changes, Europe had been a favourite because of its strong economic performance and optimism about 1992.

Thus, on a five-year view, the sector was the second best performer, funds showing average gains of 162.2 per cent.

The second best sector over one year comprised the Far Eastern funds, not investing in Japan. These specialize in countries such as Taiwan, Malaysia, Hong Kong, South Korea and the Philippines, which have some of the world's highest growth rates.

A more surprising inclusion

among the best one-year performers is commodity and energy. Over five years it was one of the worst. The turnaround was largely due to oil and base metal prices reaching their lowest points a year ago and then bouncing back.

Choosing a UK sector trust proved less rewarding. The average gain in all UK sectors was less than the rise in the FT All Share Index over one year. This was largely because of the popularity of large companies on the stock market last year. Many unit trusts favouring small and medium-sized companies suffered as a result.

Ironically, the best-performing UK specialist sector during the past year was the small group of funds investing in investment trust shares, which achieved 9.4 per cent average gains.

Over five years, UK equity income unit trusts have again proved their long-term worth, making the sector the fourth best performer and the only

UK sector to out-perform the FT All Share Index. These funds have also always produced excellent capital growth. Their concentration on high-yield stocks means they invest in out-of-fashion companies and stock market sectors, which create capital gains when back in fashion.

The worst-performing sectors over one year and five years were mainly British. Gift and fixed-interest funds had the worst losses. High short-term interest rates and high inflation are two factors that have depressed the gift market.

The Australasian sector also produced poor performance over five years.

But worst over this term was the North American sector. The main problem for these funds has been unfavourable currency movements. In local currency terms the Australian and American

stock markets have performed almost as well as, if not better than, the UK market. The Australian All Share Ordinary Index is up 117 per cent and the American Standards & Poors is up 83 per cent, compared with the FT All Share 90 per cent increase over five years, without income reinvested. But the weakness of the American and Australian dollars has meant poor gains for British investors.

But an even more crucial factor is how various sectors measure up to inflation and to building society higher-interest investments.

As a result of the recent inflation rise, only eight of the 20 sectors produced real gains above last year's retail price index increase of 7.7 per cent.

A building society higher-

BEST AND WORST PERFORMING UNIT TRUST SECTORS			
Best performing over 1 year	Average % gain/loss	Worst performing over 1 year	Average % gain/loss
Europe	32.9	UK gift & fixed int	-5.2
Far East (excl Japan)	29.7	Finance & property	-3.3
Far East (incl Japan)	14.1	Australasia	-3.1
Commodity & energy	13.5	UK equity growth	-2.1
Japan	13.1	UK balanced	-0.3
5 years			
Europe	177.1	North America	10.5
Far East (excl Japan)	162.2	Australasia	31.4
International balanced	145.5	International fixed int	35.4
UK equity income	135.2	Commodity & energy	37.2
Far East (incl Japan)	122.6	UK gift & fixed int	44.1

Figures in February 1, 1990 on offer-to-100 basis with net income reinvested

Source: Mordax

The funds that follow form

In October 1988, when memories of Black Monday were vivid enough to deter even the hardest investors, Morgan Grenfell introduced Tracker unit trusts to Britain. Today, tracker funds have proved their point — they work. Morgan Grenfell's UK Equity Index Tracker followed the FT All Share Index almost exactly in the year to November 1989, outperforming 95 per cent of all UK invested unit trusts.

The US Tracker fund has

Trackers, brought in a year after the crash, have shown they work

Index, while the Japan Tracker mirrored the FT Actuaries World Japan Index almost exactly.

Since its launch, the UK Tracker has gained 22.31 per cent compared with 21.5 per cent for the FT All Share. Investors in US Tracker have done best of all, seeing the fund gain 34 per cent in line with the S&P 500.

Political shock waves in

Japan have had a less favourable effect. The FT World Japan Index is 13.2 per cent below its May 1989 figure. Japan Tracker was down 13.7 per cent, proving that it lives up to its name.

Tony Frazer, managing director of Morgan Grenfell Unit Trust Managers, said there were no plans to launch new trackers. "All the trackers have done what they are

designed to do, tracking each index to within 1 per cent. We don't believe it is necessary to add any more."

Investors do not pay any more for the security of a Tracker fund. There is an initial 5 per cent charge and an annual 0.5 per cent management fee. The minimum investment is £1,000.

James Capel went one step further last year by launching a Tiger Index fund to focus on the south-east Asian economies. The fund is intended to take some of the dangers out of investment in the region by spreading itself through a basket of countries.

It is planned to track Capel's South East Asian Index, based on Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, South Korea, Taiwan and the Philippines. The first four, which are "approved" for investment by the Department of Trade and Industry, have an equal weighting of 18.18 per cent. The other "unapproved" markets have a half weighting of 9.09 per cent each to compensate for the extra risk.

Although the rapid growth of the Tiger economies has appealed to investors, volatile stock markets and political risks make the prospect of gains look less attractive. By giving a balanced spread, the Tiger fund allows a way into the region without the risks.

Like Morgan Grenfell, Capel launched trackers for the United States and Japan, but replaced the UK with a broader European index. The Japan index has been the most popular with investors, taking in £46 million by the beginning of February.

The American index had taken in £23.2 million, the Tiger fund nearly £18 million, and the European index £14.5 million. To round off its portfolio, Capel is launching a UK Index Fund on March 26. The fund, which will track the FT All Share Index, will be on offer for one week.

Jonathan Custance Baker, managing director of James Capel Unit Trust Managers, said the group hoped to give investors the choice of an active or index fund in all the main markets. "We are now the only group covering the full range of markets."

Trackers may not have the spice of smaller specialist funds, which target a single country or theme in the hope of high returns. But they make sense as a core in any portfolio, leaving room for more speculative investment.

Jon Ashworth

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO DUMENIL UNITHOLDERS

As a current unitholder, you should have received a letter at the end of January advising you of the decision to wind up the Dumenil range of unit trusts and distribute the proceeds to unitholders early in March.

UNIQUE SPECIAL OFFER — NO INITIAL CHARGE

ROYAL LONDON UNIT TRUSTS now offers you a special deal to enable you to re-invest the proceeds of your Dumenil units in any of the Royal London range of trusts, including our six new European single-market unit trusts launched on 17th February.

The main points are as follows:

- Current Dumenil unitholders may invest the proceeds of their Dumenil units in any Royal London unit trust until 31st March 1990 free of all initial charges.
- Minimum initial investment in Royal London unit trusts for current Dumenil unitholders is reduced to £500 until 31st March 1990.
- New range of European single-market trusts now available, aimed at capital growth and each investing in one of the major markets of continental Europe — Germany, France, Italy, The Netherlands, Spain and Switzerland.

Investors are reminded that the price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

ACT NOW

IF YOU WISH TO INVEST IN OUR RANGE OF EUROPEAN SINGLE-MARKET UNIT TRUSTS:

EITHER: 1. Instruct your financial adviser to invest the proceeds of your Dumenil units on your behalf in one or more of the new single-market unit trusts.

OR: 2. Forward written instructions and payment direct to Royal London unit trusts with a copy of any communication received from Dumenil, or their Trustees, in order to verify that you are a current unitholder.

OR: 3. Forward written instructions and your cheque from Dumenil's trustees with your endorsement on the back.

If instructions are received by 9th March, then any investment in our new single-market trusts will be at the fixed offer price, less the initial charge. After that date and until 31st March, units will be issued at the offer price applicable for transactions at the time of receipt, less the initial charge.

IF YOU WISH TO INVEST IN ANY OTHER ROYAL LONDON UNIT TRUST:

EITHER: 1. Instruct your financial adviser to invest the proceeds of your Dumenil units on your behalf in one or more Royal London unit trusts.

OR: 2. Write or telephone for further information on the Royal London range of unit trusts so that we can provide the required scheme particulars.

GENERAL INFORMATION

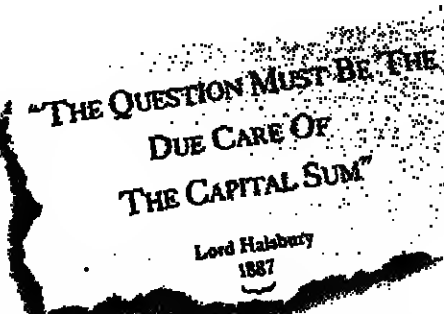
Special Offer to Dumenil Unitholders For a limited period, until 31st March 1990, current unitholders of Dumenil unit trusts may transfer the proceeds of their Dumenil units into one or more Royal London unit trusts without payment of any initial charge. These unitholders who received by 1st March 1990 will be able to invest in the new European single-market trusts in the initial offer price, less the initial charge. These unitholders who received after that date, but by 31st March, will be able to invest at the offer price applicable for transactions at the date of receipt, less the initial charge.

The offer of this special offer will be made by The Royal London Unit Trust Managers Limited and will apply to all qualifying unitholders. A Contract Note will be despatched as a reminder of the offer and a certificate will be forwarded within 21 days of payment. During this special offer period, the minimum investment in each trust will be reduced to £500 for Dumenil unitholders only. The offer period for the new European single-market trusts has closed, units will be issued and dealt in on each business day and the price will be published in the Financial Times. Units will be issued at the offer price applicable for transactions at the date of receipt, less the initial charge.

Reports, when published, may be obtained from the Manager. Financial statements are sent to unitholders to enable them to monitor the performance of each trust. No commission will be payable in respect of units purchased under the special offer. Unitholders should be aware that the value of the units may fluctuate. The value of the units may fluctuate. The value of the units may fluctuate. The value of the units may fluctuate.

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Source Money Management Jan 1990

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Jon Ashworth

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UNIT TRUSTS/3

Three experts give their advice for investment in the UK, Europe and beyond

By Peter Hargreaves
Hargreaves Lansdown Asset Management

The United Kingdom: during the past 12 months it has been extremely difficult to convince clients that they should have an investment in the UK. Since UK investors' liabilities are in sterling, we believe their assets should be in sterling. We believe that this is an excellent time to invest in the UK. While interest rates do not look like coming down in the short term, we can also safely say there is very little chance of significant increases. We are within two years of a general election, and a mini boom is inevitable.

We like the new fund from the new unit trust group Newton. We believe this group is determined to be a serious player in the unit trust market, and we recommend the New Newton General Trust.

Japan: now no longer

speculative, more the stable low-risk element of a portfolio. For the UK investor there are two potential returns from Japan, the stock market and the currency. We recommend one of the best long-term performers in Japan to be a major international figure in investment management: the MIM Britannia Japan Performance Fund.

Europe: no portfolio today can ignore the potential of the west's most populous market. Europe has many advantages over the Far East and, with the changes in the east, European businesses will have access to a new source of highly educated highly motivated workers with low wage expectations. In addition, there is

the 1992 and the single European market, and, most importantly, Europe has far better communications than most other parts of the world. We recommend a unit trust which is poised to capitalize on the changes occurring in continental Europe: the Fidelity 1992 Fund.

These are not only three markets which I believe offer good investment potential for the future, but also groups which I believe will perform well within those markets.

These three funds would make an ideal balanced portfolio for someone entering the unit trust market for the first time. We have placed them in order of how much capital should be invested. In other words, if you were investing

£10,000, perhaps £4,500 in the UK fund £3,000 in the Japan fund and £2,500 in the European fund would be a sensible start to a portfolio of unit trusts.

Graham Hooper
Chase de Vere Investments
The contrast between the lethargy in the UK and US economies and the naive euphoria and consequent confidence now prevalent in Europe is marked.

The strong performances of most world markets in 1989 will not be repeated this year as growth slows and inflation bites into corporate profits. Given that UK interest rates will fall later this year for political if not economic reasons - investors reluctant to expose themselves to risk should select a fund with a strong fixed interest element. Investors will not be disappointed with Royal Trust Preference Share Fund; those looking for higher risks and rewards should look at Fidelity Special Situations (but be prepared for a bumpy ride). Avoid funds investing heavily in retail stocks or highly geared companies.

In America, interest rates could fall faster than in the UK, and currency should be a major consideration. America has often been a graveyard for UK investors because of the currency - go for a heavily hedged fund such as the Gartmore Hedged American Trust.

The naive euphoria I referred to earlier revolves around the fact that although cash flow into Europe (and particularly Germany) is strong, growth will be funded by western money. My worry is that we could be building a third-world debt type problem on our own doorstep. Consequently, a broadly based trust such as Fidelity European is as good a bet as any. GT Germany looks a good "pump" - but beware of the risks.

In the Far East, Japan will continue to be the engine-room of world growth. The Japanese are heavy investors in other Far Eastern satellite countries. The "weight of money" view will keep these

markets moving. For Japan, consider Perpetual Japanese Growth Fund, and in the satellites invest in the James Capel Tiger Index Fund - a superbly conceived and constructed fund for these inherently volatile markets.

My cynicism is based on the view that slowing world growth will have more of an adverse affect than most commentators expect. The message is clear: be selective in your choice of management group and fund manager - consistency of past performance is usually indicative of a solid future and, given a medium-term view, investors will not be disappointed.

Mark Dampier
Whitechurch Securities
Investors have had a roller-coaster ride in world stock markets since 1987, with some dramatic rises and falls. Markets have ebbed and flowed with the political power struggles in eastern Europe. I believe this will continue into the 1990s, and investors need, more than ever, to take a long-term approach.

Most stock markets have had a good run since October 1987. For sterling investors, this has often been enhanced, on overseas holdings, by the fall in the pound. Investors should therefore appreciate that gains are likely to be harder to achieve over the next year. The general background, however, remains encouraging: worries over inflation around the world are exaggerated, and the recent rises in bond yields should prove to be a buying opportunity. Institutional cash is also at very high levels, suggesting that risks are limited.

With so much going on, it is difficult for small investors to know where to place their money, so I have gone for an easy-way bet and chosen M&G Emerging Markets. Investing in emerging markets is rather like investing in small companies: they have a huge potential for booming, but can also fall flat on their face. M&G reduces the risk by spreading investment around the world, currently holding around 50 per cent in the Far East, over 20 per cent in Europe and 17 per cent in the more unusual areas such as Israel, Brazil and even Chile. The fund has risen by around 70 per cent in the last year (offer to offer). Investors can therefore participate in the changes taking place in Europe, benefit from the dynamic economies of the Far East, and invest in some of the markets of tomorrow.

It should be remembered that Japan itself was only an emerging market 25 years ago, and it now has a bigger capitalization than the United States - food for thought.

Invest in EUROPE'S FINEST COLLECTION

Six New Unit Trusts for the Growth Markets of the 1990s

The stock markets of Europe provide some of the most exciting capital growth opportunities available at the present time. International investors are only just beginning to appreciate the full consequences of Europe's move towards a single market in 1992. This, together with the dramatic changes sweeping Eastern Europe, should ensure that economic growth is sustained at recent high levels well into the new decade.

With trade barriers tumbling across Europe, companies will have access to wider markets, promoting higher sales, greater competitiveness and bigger profits. As companies look beyond national boundaries, the merits of larger size will continue to encourage the growing level of takeover and merger activity now taking place.

The new found political and economic freedom in Eastern Europe has opened up new markets hungry for goods and services from their wealthy neighbours. The modernisation of Eastern European economies will further

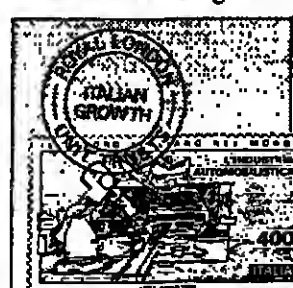
fuel the economic boom in Western Europe.

The benefits of these developments will not be evenly spread and a variety of opportunities will arise for investors who may, therefore, wish to invest in different markets at different times. Despite the advantages of being able to invest in individual European markets, no major unit trust group offers the choice between these mar-

kets that is now available from Royal London.

About Royal London

The Royal London Unit Trust Managers Limited is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Limited. The Royal London Group currently manages funds of approximately £3 billion, over £70 million of which is already invested in Europe. Royal London was the only group to appear in the top ten unit trust management



The Royal London Italian Growth Trust

Italy has become a dynamic and successful market, already enjoying many close trading links with Eastern European countries. The country has great potential as many investors have been unaware of Italy's thriving underlying industrial base. The Italians themselves have a tremendous propensity to save and invest - second only to the Japanese - thus further boosting the economy. It is strong in agriculture; Italian olive oil is exported all over the world and Italy is the world's single biggest wine producer. It is also strong in cars, aircraft, shipbuilding, heavy engineering, clothing and textiles. Italy is the birthplace of banking in which it remains a world force and the Milan Stock Exchange is important in international transactions.

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You may invest in any or all of the six trusts subject to a minimum of £1,000 per trust.

groups for both UK and international unit trusts for last year.

Six New Unit Trusts

With 1992 fast approaching, Royal London is now able to offer a unique range of six specialist European unit trusts all



The Royal London Spanish Growth Trust

The Spanish economy has performed strongly over the last two years and is expected to continue to be one of the fastest developing stock markets in Europe over this period. While the risks of investment in Spain over the next ten years are perhaps high, the potential for growth is among the highest of all the major markets. Economic and corporate growth should remain strong. Spain has important coal and iron resources, powerful agricultural exports - not least sherry! - and a continuing commitment to create new industrial zones. The principal stock exchange in Madrid is supplemented by smaller but active exchanges in Barcelona, Bilbao and Valencia.

Valuable discounts - limited period
All investors in any or all of these six new Royal London Trusts are eligible for a discount of 2% provided the application reaches us by 9th March 1990. So don't miss your chance, act now before it's too late.

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aimed at capital growth and each investing in one of the major European markets.



The Royal London Dutch Growth Trust

Although geographically small, the Netherlands, like the UK, has always been an adventurous country, seeking profitable trade links around the world. There is intensive agriculture, important coal and natural gas resources and the Netherlands control a great deal of total world output in oil, tin and diamonds. Several of the world's important trading companies - Unilever, Shell and Philips - have roots in the Netherlands. Some of the best investment opportunities, however, lie amongst the undervalued and often unexploited smaller companies. Many of these are good quality, well-managed businesses which have excellent prospects and are also likely to be at the forefront of European corporate restructuring in the move towards a single European market.

Warning
Investors are reminded that the price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.



Min. Investment £1,000
You may invest in any or all of the six trusts subject to a minimum of £1,000 per trust.



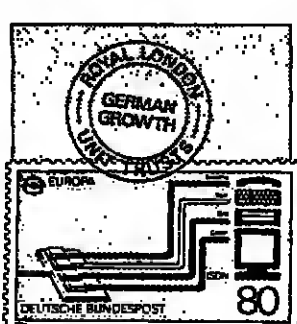
The Royal London Swiss Growth Trust

Switzerland's traditional economy and financial strength rest in its fierce independence, neutrality and political stability. The Swiss enjoy the highest standard of living in the world. Industrial activity embraces a high level of exports of machine tools and precision machinery, watches and clocks, chemicals, pharmaceuticals and foods, particularly cheese and chocolate. The economy and currency are strengthened by its extensive banking industry, amongst the most sophisticated in the world. Although not a member of the European Community, powerful Swiss companies - of international blue chip status - were amongst the first to secure positions of increased strength in the advanced conditions already established in Europe.

Warning
Investors are reminded that the price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.



Min. Investment £1,000
You may invest in any or all of the six trusts subject to a minimum of £1,000 per trust.



The Royal London German Growth Trust

The European economic miracle of the last 40 years has been led by West Germany which is well placed to continue on its impressive path of success and growth with or without unification. The continuing influx of young East Germans will do much to overcome past shortages in industry. With abundant natural resources such as coal and iron, West Germany is noted for its industry, which is particularly strong in chemicals, automotive and other heavy and light engineering. Economic growth continues to be strong, inflation remains under control and the currency remains firm. For UK investors, therefore, there is the added bonus of being able to invest in a fund linked to the Deutschmark.

General Information

Initial Offer Details: The minimum initial investment in each trust is £1,000. During the initial offer period, a special 2% discount will apply to the 50p offer price of units. The cost of the discount will be met by the Manager and will apply to all applications received by 9th March 1990. Contract Notes will be despatched on receipt of the application and a certificate will be forwarded within twenty-one days of payment. Paying and Selling Units: Once the initial offer has closed, units will be valued and dealt in on each business day and the price and yields published in the Financial Times. Units will be issued at the offer price applicable for transactions in the date and time that instructions are received by the Manager. The minimum investment will be £1,000 and the minimum subsequent investment for an existing unit holder will be £200. Instructions to sell units must be confirmed to the Manager by writing by post, and the units will be redeemed at the price applicable for transactions at

the date and time that instructions are received by the Manager. Payment will be made before the close of business on the 4th business day after receipt of the correct and complete instructions. Changes: An initial charge, which currently amounts to 5.25% and which may not exceed 7.5%, is made on each offer price calculation. A recurring annual management charge of 1.5% of the value of each trust will be deducted on a monthly basis from the property of each trust. The Trust Deed contains provisions to increase this charge to a maximum of 2% after three months' notice. The Trust's fees, at an annual rate not exceeding 0.5% (plus VAT) of the value of each trust, are payable out of the property of each trust, together with any expenses of the Trustees. If, then, please note the appropriate box on the application form. Fees reports will be published and copies will be distributed half-yearly, not of basic rate tax, on the following dates: Dutch Growth 10th February 1990, German Growth 10th February 1990, Italian Growth 10th February 1990, Spanish Growth 10th February 1990, Swiss Growth 10th February 1990, and the Royal London Dutch Growth 10th February 1990.

and 10th July commencing 10th January 1991, Spanish Growth 10th February 1991, Swiss Growth 10th February 1991, and the Royal London Dutch Growth 10th February 1991. Tax on Income: When income is distributed we shall send you a Tax Voucher. Only if you are liable to pay income tax is income of the basic rate will you have an additional income tax liability. Capital Gains Tax: An initial charge of 2.75% (plus VAT) of the value of each trust will be deducted on a monthly basis from the property of each trust. The Trust Deed contains provisions to increase this charge to a maximum of 3% after three months' notice. The Trust's fees, at an annual rate not exceeding 0.5% (plus VAT) of the value of each trust, are payable out of the property of each trust, together with any expenses of the Trustees. If, then, please note the appropriate box on the application form. Fees reports will be published and copies will be distributed half-yearly, not of basic rate tax, on the following dates: Dutch Growth 10th February 1990, German Growth 10th February 1990, Italian Growth 10th February 1990, Spanish Growth 10th February 1990, Swiss Growth 10th February 1990, and the Royal London Dutch Growth 10th February 1990.

by currency fluctuations. The valuation point for each trust is 10.00am except for the German Growth trust which is valued at 12.00am. Bid and Offer Prices: The current difference between the bid and offer prices for each trust is 0.5%. The difference between the minimum bid price and the maximum offer price for each trust will be approximately 0.75%. Trustees: The Trusts of each trust are National Westminster Bank PLC, each trust is an authorized member of the Royal London Unit Trust Managers Limited, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Limited. Registered in England & Wales: No. 1532255. Registered Office: Royal London House, Middleborough, Colchester, Essex CO1 1RA. Telephone: Colchester (0206) 764400 (Dialing). Colchester (0206) 701771 (Equityline). Member of the Royal London Group. Member of IFA, LOMA and the UTA.

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Time to PEP up the mortgage?

Unit trusts are often described as the best way for private investors to buy shares without putting all their eggs in one basket. Wrap them in a personal equity plan, the argument continues, and the rewards will be even greater. Over 20 years, the difference could run to thousands of pounds - without necessarily adding anything to the cost.

It is a convincing argument, and one which has helped the unit trust companies attract new investors. In recent months, The largest provider, M&G, has had £70 million invested in its unit trust PEP since June last year. Others, like Fidelity and Save & Prosper, have seen a growing interest in the plans, especially as the end of the tax year draws nearer.

The question for investors is whether it is better to pick a unit-trust-only PEP, or choose one which allows them to select individual shares as well. For first-time investors, the unit-trust option seems the better bet. The downside is that they can only invest up to £2,400 in a unit-trust-only PEP, as opposed to £4,800 through a share plan. But clad in its tax-free wrapping, that can add up to a sizeable return over 10 or 15 years.

Unlike a pension, there is no tax relief on contributions to a PEP. But any gains are tax free, and there is no tax to pay on income. The benefits can be attractive, and don't necessarily cost any more.

There is a bit of a misconception about the cost of a PEP," said Mr Robin Bloor, an associate director of Chase de Vere, the broker. "It costs no more, generally, to go into a PEP, and the yield is tax free."

Roger Jennings, M&G's marketing manager, says unit trust PEPs remain one of the most effective ways of investing in the longer term. "At worst there is little extra cost in going via a PEP. We've got our fingers crossed that the Chancellor will do the right

thing and make the full PEP allowance available to unit trust investors."

Even a single lump sum investment can turn into a sizeable gain with time. Anyone who invested £1,000 in Save & Prosper's High Return unit trust 20 years ago would have seen it grow to £19,252 by the beginning of February, offer to bid. With the tax-free wrapping of a PEP to boost it, the same investment would have become £29,311.

The rewards for regular savers are even more spectacular. £100 invested in the same unit trust each month for 20 years would have grown to £176,240. Through the PEP, it would have turned into £235,385 - not bad considering it doesn't really cost any more to "PEP" up an investment.

Fidelity found that anyone who invested £4,800 in its Special Situations unit trust at the beginning of the 1980s could have made an extra £10,000 through a PEP. An investor paying 25 per cent tax would have been left with £57,500 tax-free at the beginning of January 1990, compared with £47,800 if he had invested outside a PEP.

It has also been predicted that unit-trust PEPs may come to replace pensions and endowments as an ideal way of paying off mortgages. The beauty, according to many advisers, is the way in which cash can be rolled up tax free year after year without locking you away from your capital.

But it is in saving school fees that unit-trust PEPs are really set to make their mark. "This is an area which will become greatly more developed," said Mr Robin Bloor. "You can call a plan a school fees PEP, when really it is just a tag to encourage saving. PEPs only really become worthwhile over five to 10 years, and should be held for at least three."

Jon Ashworth

FOCUS

UNIT TRUSTS/4

European launches and money trusts are expanding, Barbara Ellis says

How 1992 came early

Continental Europe is a preoccupation for Britain's unit trusts — as somewhere to invest in, as a marketplace and as a source of competition on home ground. But investors may overlook the cross-border battle for their savings already in progress because much of it is disguised, either by familiar brand names or by slow beginnings.

From this year, fund launches have included a European smaller-companies fund from Save & Prosper focusing on eastern Europe. Royal London unveiled individual trusts specializing in France, West Germany, Italy, Spain and The Netherlands, but handed out small, boxed chunks of the Berlin wall to stress awareness of crumbling communism and its impact.

But the experience of investing on the Continent may have been soured for some time, at least for the 12,000 unit-holders recently locked into the French-owned Dumeil group's single-country funds for more than three months after the discovery of pricing difficulties. The West German banks that have bought stakes in Britain's unit trust industry should, however, avoid any rebound of bad publicity associated with foreign names.

The European single market arrived well ahead of 1992 for unit trusts. On October 1 last year, a European Community directive came into force allowing unit trusts to sell throughout Europe, provided they registered in each country as a UCITS (undertaking for

collective investment in transferable securities). To qualify, a unit trust has to abide by restrictions, including a "three-fives" rule — holding no more than 5 per cent of its portfolio in one stock and owning no more than 5 per cent of a company and no more than 5 per cent of another UCITS. If all EC countries had the necessary statutes on their books by October 1, the number of funds on the market in Britain might have doubled or trebled from the present 1,372. But in the event, only Britain, Ireland and Luxembourg had the laws in place, and, according to Tony Smith, secretary of the Unit Trust Association, investors can expect to see little change for another year or two.

Difficulties in the way, he says, describing the UCITS directive as "just a foot in the door, not an open door." According to Save & Prosper's Ken Emery, tax considerations have kept S & P and many others from registering their British-based funds as UCITS. Though registration allows

a fund to pay corporation tax at 25 per cent instead of 35 per cent, which benefits unit-holders, this is a disadvantage for the group, which sees its franked income converted into unfranked income.

S & P decided to retain unit trust status — with a neutral effect on investors, according to Mr Emery — and passed the information on.

"The Securities and Invest

Units in Luxembourg because of the softer regulatory regime, including S & P's Fleming Flagship fund, but, as things stand, Mr Emery says, investors are better off with their own domestic fund, again for tax reasons.

Foreign exchange risk is another deterrent, as well as the lack of cover from the UK Investors' Compensation Scheme for UCITS based outside Britain.

Unit trust marketing in Europe is largely dominated by banks, and the UTA's Mr Smith says that outside influences will be prevented from changing national characteristics by the UCITS provision that funds must abide by the marketing rules in each country. However, Mary Blair of Fidelity thinks this means that it will be easier for Continental trusts to sell their products in Britain than the other way round because this country has a large number of independent sales people, as well as relatively cheap national press advertising. But, she says, British expertise in equity investment should give the UK an edge against Continental funds, which have pri-



Chipping away at eastern Europe: Save & Prosper handed out small, boxed chunks of the Berlin wall

ments Board did not know what was going on", he says. "First, they got hundreds of requests for UCITS certificates, then hundreds of withdrawals."

Some funds have set up as



Tony Smith: sees little change

marly specialized in fixed-interest investment. Yet there are problems with making cross-border comparisons, according to Ms Blair. She explains, as an example, that a West German fund with exactly the same investments in, say, North America as an Italian fund could show quite a different performance and payout record because of gross payment of dividends in West Germany and net payment in Italy.

Ms Blair says that instead of registering its UK-based funds as UCITS, Fidelity aims to set up a mirror-image Luxembourg operation by the end of September. "We feel that most Europeans don't understand the bid/offer spread which we are obliged to have here," she says, explaining that Luxembourg funds have a single price based on net asset value. At M&G, the biggest of Britain's unit trust groups, Tim Miller, marketing director, says that last October's UCITS directive was less important than it might appear because it had done nothing about harmonizing tax, marketing rules or distribution. "The world is a lot more complicated than we thought it was," says Mr Miller, who chairs a marketing committee for the European Federation of Investment Fund Companies. "You have these different industries that have grown up really in isolation."

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Parking-place problems

Money unit trusts are like a sparsely used car park that has suddenly sprouted a car boot sale. When first authorized two years ago, the money or cash trusts were seen by management groups as a kind of "parking place" in which customers could be persuaded to leave their money between forays into more adventurous share-based funds (Barbara Ellis writes).

Then along came the announcement of independent taxation, which from April will give married women their own tax allowance, as well as an incentive for the non-taxpayers among them to seek an alternative to the bank and building society deposits that deduct composite rate tax that cannot be reclaimed.

Money funds offered a convenient loophole: though they invest in bank and building society deposits as well as short-term money market instruments, the tax they deduct can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers. Managers seized on this as a selling point.

The number of money funds on the market grew from just two early last year to eight by this January. Three more

have been launched, and a further five or six are nearing the slipway — all with independent taxation seriously in mind.

Despite their common target, though, the money funds show quite wide variations in charges and conditions. Edinburgh's Stewart Ivory Managed Cash fund looks the most expensive, with a 5 per cent front-end charge, plus 0.5 per cent annually in exchange for a yield of 14.9 per cent. The minimum investment is either £5,000 or £50 a month as part of a savings plan.

Midland Bank's Money unit trust is also pricey, charging 4 per cent initially and 0.5 per cent annually, although the yield is only 12.7 per cent. Minimum investment is £500.

The Savings Corporation's City Reserve fund has a front-end charge of 1 per cent, plus 0.5 per cent a year. The same group's Harbour fund charges nothing initially and 0.5 per cent annually.

Both at present yield 14 per cent, with minimum investments set at either £500 in a lump sum or £25 a month through a savings plan.

The Guardian Royal Exchange Cash fund effectively

sets no minimum on investments. There is a lower limit of £500 on lump-sum investments, but not on the group's monthly savings plan, though a spokesman said the hope was that people would not invest less than £5 or £10 a month. GRE Cash has no initial charge, a 0.5 annual charge and a 13.7 per cent yield.

Scottish Amicable Maximum Income sets a minimum of £2,500 for starters with a subsequent minimum of £1,000 and does not offer a monthly savings option. Charges are 2.5 per cent initially, 0.5 annually, yield is 15 per cent.

Accums, the recently formed offshoot of American Express based in Beckenham, has no initial load on its money fund, but charges 0.75 per cent annually. The minimum lump sum investment is £1,000; the savings plan minimum £50 a month.

Fidelity's Cash Fund, launched last February, has since grown to the biggest money fund, totalling £35 million. With an annual charge of 0.5 per cent, Fidelity Cash yields 14.9 per cent. Investment minimum is £1,000 or £50 monthly.

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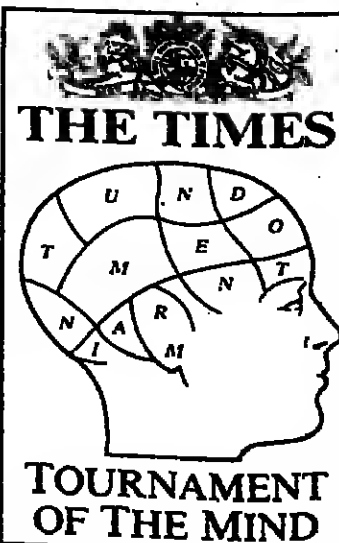
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SATURDAY MARCH 3 1990

Men so brave, orders so foolish



ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

I am a fortunate man," said Adil Sahin, "the Lord has been good. He gave me this beautiful place to live my life. In these days we speak of it, it was also a beautiful place to die." The village where Adil has lived all the 93 years of his life is Buyuk Anafarta on the Turkish peninsula called Gelibolu. We know it better as Gallipoli.

Seventy-five years ago, the 18-year-old shepherd Adil went with 32 others from his village to man hastily dug trenches along the Sari Bair ridge above his house. Only he and two others returned. Buyuk Anafarta did not suffer alone; the scale of its losses of young men is matched on the village war memorials of New Zealand and Nepal, in the memories of the aged on Australian sheep stations, and in the records of many now-disbanded British regiments.

From Sari Bair's peaks you look down on the golden crescents of a coast of haunting place names: Anzac Cove and Suvla Bay, Gully Beach and Cape Helles. Buried among the trees above the beaches are others: Lone Pine and The Nek, Pink Farm and Twelve Tree Copse. Even now, 75 years on, there are women of a half-dozen nations who cannot hear those names without weeping.

Some of those women will be joining a pilgrimage by people from all around the world to the graves of Gallipoli next month, when the anniversary will be marked by the speeches of statesmen near where 28 Victoria Crosses were won; 216 other men were awarded the Distinguished Service Order, 354 the Military Cross, and 719 the Distinguished Conduct Medal. But no politician will be able to find a sentence which rings true that does not lean with equally heavy emphasis on the heroics and the horror this land has seen.

That horror lives still with Arthur "Johnny" Bull, aged 94, who saw the worst of the fighting with the Royal Gloucester Hussars. "It was a horrible nightmare, suicide. A terrible, terrible time."

Bull was a stretcher-bearer at the infamous Chocolate Hill, which rapidly became thick with bodies. Former Corporal Bull, who now lives in Dyfed, spent his 20th birthday in a trench under fire. "They were shooting at you all time, day and night. All you could hear was guns going pop-pop-pop. We lived on bully beef, biscuits and water. The same water for washing and drinking. 'Wounded? I wish I had been. We all wanted to get wounded. Just to get out of there.'"

In Adil's beautiful place during 1915, in a strip of killing ground never more than 12½ miles by five, the armies of the British Empire, France and Turkey suffered more than 500,000 casualties. More than 120,000 died on this finger of land, many in hand-to-hand fighting. "This is hell, all died up," one Aussie wrote. No more than a quarter were ever identified; many of the rest simply became part of the very stuff of his glorious, brooding scenery. Very few are left to tell, as Adil

Anzac Cove, Suvla Bay, Gully Beach, Cape Helles . . . the Dardanelles. Next month, as a pilgrimage of politicians, old soldiers and widows heads for the Turkish beaches, a new generation will learn with horror of the futility of Gallipoli — the killing fields of 1915.

Brian James tells the dreadful story



Survivors: Adil Sahin (left) defended the vital Sari Bair ridge; Arthur Bull saw the worst of the fighting with the Royal Gloucester Hussars



can, what it was like. He was on duty at the north end of the bay that would become known as Anzac Cove at 4am on April 25. "My friend shouted 'Someone comes'. I saw big black shapes on the beach. We had great fear. But we fired. We were called back up into the hills. Still we fired. Of the 11 men in my post five were killed at once."

Adil did not know who they were fighting. "We were told they were English. But England had been our friend. We did not know why they were doing this to us. Then we were told that many came from this land of Australia. That was a great distance. Why had they come here?"

That was a question that was going to be asked, between prayers and curses, countless times in the months after that April morning. Yet the men from the Empire, volunteers all, had arrived singing with confidence in pursuit of a truly Grand Design. Winston Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, had proposed that the capture of the Gallipoli peninsula would give the Allies free use of the 40-mile stretch of water known as the Dardanelles. This in turn would give access to British fleets to the Sea of Marmara, past Istanbul

beneath their battleship guns, drive Turkey from the war, and open up the Black Sea ports, through which the Allies could supply and encourage Russia, then scarcely holding Germany on the eastern front.

Perhaps even more was played for than Churchill contemplated; historians now speculate whether, had the plan succeeded, the Russian Revolution would ever have taken place.

But the plan was never destined to succeed, because it was attended by so doleful a list of ignorances in its planning, incompetence in its execution, by failures in the leaders matched only by the heroism of the led, as to make that cool and eminent military historian Dupuy declare: "With the possible exception of the Crimea, the expedition was the most poorly mounted and ineptly controlled operation in modern British military history . . . the fighting men on both sides performed miracles." Of the millions of words written on the campaign, most have been greatly more scathing.

The consequences of failure were many. Churchill was sacked from the Cabinet and was seldom trusted by military minds again until his re-emergence in the

Second World War. A previously unknown Turkish divisional commander named Kemal became a national hero and established the fame that led on to his emergence as Kemal Ataturk, the "father" of the modern Turkish republic. And an equally unknown Australian journalist, Keith Murdoch came, wrote what he had seen, and almost single-handedly ended the war.

The verdicts of historians on Gallipoli cannot be dismissed as hindsight. Soldiers of the time, one or two ranks down from the incompetent staff officers wished on the luckless commander, General Sir Ian Hamilton (who left for Turkey at 24 hours' notice with no plan and only a few tourist maps of his target) fumed as delays multiplied and chances of essential surprise vanished.

The consequences were immediate. On March 18 a formidable Allied fleet, including 18 capital ships, sailed into the Straits and began to reduce the out-gunned batteries barring the 40-mile passage. But pointless earlier assaults in November and January had so alerted the Turks that a small minesweeper had strewn changes along the line chosen by the British on their previous raid: now three old battleships were sunk and three more crippled.

This action, celebrated across Turkey every March 18 since as a victory marking the rebirth of a nation in decline since the rout of the Ottoman Empire, cast the die: the British fleet fled, its admiral declaring "First, let the troops clear the land."

According to the plan they should have been ready to do so. But incompetent staffwork meant that the approaching force was in chaotic order: units were on one ship, their guns on another, ammunition on a third. They had to return to Egypt to be combat-loaded. A month passed: every ship arrival was freely reported in Cairo newspapers; spies were taken daily around the assembly area on the island of Lemnos.

The German "advising" general, Liman von Sanders, gave command of the Gallipoli garrison, could scarcely have been better prepared for his enemies. In February, Turkey had 15,000 troops on the peninsula. At 4.30am on April 25, when the first Anzacs tripped ashore, Adil Sahin was one of 88,000 men waiting to receive them. He remembers being chivvied back up the razor-backed ravines above the beaches throughout that first night by the ludicrously courageous charges of men apparently loving their first taste of war.

Next morning, British troops made their own landings on five beaches around Cape Helles on the southern tip of Gallipoli. Some, like the thousands on a converted collier, the River Clyde, stepped off into point-blank fire and were massacred. Others, like the men on "Y" beach, sauntered ashore, looked around the town of Krynitz, paused to brew up on the slopes of the height called Achi

Baba and were still awaiting orders when the Turks arrived to chase them off. Britain was to lose 10,000 dead trying in vain to take both Krynitz and Achi Baba in the next nine months.

By dawn the Anzacs had taken the first ridge of hillocks. But the land was against withering fire by the end of the first day was all they were to hold for the next three months; trapped in a beachhead, usually within sight of snipers, always in range of artillery, and fighting daily with bayonet and grenades to cling to just a few feet of scrub.

Adil says: "All day just shooting. So many died. But it was our duty. We awoke and began fighting. At night we buried those who died. We knew they would be happy now. There was no horror

for us." The fatalistic courage of these Muslim infantrymen was yet another factor totally underestimated in the planning.

"Often we were without food," Adil says. "One day the government sent hazelnuts and raisins. The trenches of the Australians were only about 15 yards away. We threw them fruit. They threw back cigarettes and biscuits." This is a documented incident; the grudging regard of the combatants for each other is famous.

But more typical was another incident Adil, sharp-minded still at 93, recalls: "One day they waved flags from each side. And we walked out of the trenches to bury the dead." In fact, Turks do not formally bury their dead; what they wanted was to recover the rifles of the 1,000 men shot down

in one insane charge into 948,000 bullets (yes, someone counted). The Australians matched this sacrifice another day when they lost 2,400 men tackling a 300-yard section of front.

Apart from a regular diet of lack of water, lack of ammunition, lack of comprehensible orders, some days brought supreme horror. Like the afternoon of mad bravery when leap-frogging handfuls of Gurkhas, Gloucesters and Welch Fusiliers finally took the key peak of Chunuk Bair. They sent for reinforcements to fresh-landed troops assembled below. "Sorry, my men used a hot meal and tea before coming up," the red-topped commander said. After the Turkish counter-attack, no British soldier was left alive on Chunuk. The

Continued overleaf

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THE BATTLE OF GALLIPOLI

The journalist who stopped a war

Continued from previous page
final débâcle came at Suvla Bay, when a fresh August landing to take the Turks from the rear saw 20,000 Empire troops land unopposed to scatter the 1,600 enemy facing them under the Sari Bair ridge. The plan visualized a dash for the heights; instead some units began digging in, others went bathing. Fresh Turkish battalions were strung along the heights when, two days later, the advance began, and was instantly halted.

Effectively, the Gallipoli campaign ended then; except that neither Hamilton nor Churchill was prepared to concede so. It took the truth about life and death on the peninsula (brought to Britain by the dramatic means outlined on this page) to provoke the one Dardanelles operation that brought credit to British arms: the evacuation.

Hamilton had said it could not be done, not without losses of up to 40,000 of his men. His replacements, General Monro then Birdwood, produced a plan of breathtaking audacity. From mid-December, night after night groups of men, six or a dozen at a time, filed down the gullies, silent and not smoking, moving soundlessly across roads and jetties lined with sacking and slid into barges.

On January 9, 1916, the last few, having mined their trenches and rigged Heath-Robinson devices operated by water dripping into cans to trigger abandoned rifles, crept away. The evacuation of 134,000 troops had cost not a single man.

Adil says: "At first we did not believe. Then we went down through the fog, and there was no one. We sat down; what was there to celebrate?"

The 57 Anzac veterans, average age 94, making their way to where Adil waits to greet them ("not as enemies, but comrades of a terrible time") will find the peninsula as empty today as then. Like the 35 sons and daughters of the British dead on the British Legion pilgrimage, like veteran Arthur Bull, Margaret Thatcher, Australia's prime minister and New Zealand's governor-general, like the bands and colour-parties from warships that will again sail the Narrows, they will be heartened by the care given the countless cemeteries.

The Turks have made the peninsular tip a national park, forbidding all development and gimmick tourism and planting the once-bare hills with millions of trees. But only the imagination-dead can tread the trenches, where once "as the bullets hit blood hung in the air like the droplets of a hairdresser's spray" and not feel that Adil's beautiful land is peopled with a braver presence than those striding regiments of pine.

How much influence journalists truly wield can occupy much lunchtime discussion in bars, and at No 10 Downing Street. Few can claim to have written one long piece on an army "murdered by incapacity" and almost single-handedly stopped a war.

Keith Murdoch was aged 29 when he left Australia to run the London cable office of an Australian newspaper group. He was nervous about the assignment (because of his stammer a previous attempt to conquer Fleet Street had not succeeded) and, in any case, he saw the job as second prize, having narrowly failed to gain the top place allocated to Australia in the Press corps accompanying the Gallipoli landings four months before.

He was slightly mollified by having been given the chore by his government, for a fee of £25, of stopping off in Cairo to ask questions about the failure of the Australian forces' postal system and allegations that money sent from home was vanishing on route.

To pursue those inquiries, Murdoch cabled General Sir Ian Hamilton for permission to visit campaign headquarters on Imbros and the Anzac front. This, to Hamilton's later regret, was granted.

Once Murdoch had signed an undertaking to write nothing that did not pass before the censor, Murdoch was part-prepared for Anzac Cove after talking on Imbros to Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett, an English war correspondent who was scathing about the conduct of the campaign. What he was to observe for himself over four days appalled him. Worse, because of his undertaking to the censor, he could not hope to report the truth to his newspaper in Australia.

It was Ashmead-Bartlett who provided the solution. Would Murdoch, asked the Englishman, agree to carry a sealed letter to Britain's Prime Minister, Asquith? Murdoch, guessing the contents, agreed. The plan misfired when, tipped off by another journalist, Hamilton warned the War Office about the letter and a British Intelligence officer boarded Murdoch's ship at Marseilles to seize his papers.

But Murdoch had been shown a way out: by placing himself under military discipline by signing the undertaking, he had also extended to himself every soldier's right to correspond freely with any MP. On September 21 Murdoch arrived in



The war reporter: Keith Murdoch revealed the awful truth in a letter to the Australian Prime Minister

London, went straight to the Australian group's offices in The Times building and began pecking out an 8,000-word letter to the Australian prime minister, Andrew Fisher, the former miner he had met while a parliamentary reporter.

I am indebted to Desmond Zwar, a journalist friend of many years, for what follows. Ten years ago Zwar persuaded the Australian government to release the Murdoch letter, "classified" since 1915. Murdoch had done his homework. His letter has piercing detail of what had been done badly, what alternatives were never tried. Much of it is almost sentimental in praise of Australian courage and spirit. More is deadly in its criticism of the campaign's leadership.

Excerpts give a flavour. After describing the inept chaos of Suvla, Murdoch continued:

Flies are spreading dysentery, and we must be evacuating 1,000 sick and wounded men every day. When the autumn rains come and unbury our dead, now lying under a light soil in our trenches, sickness must increase. Even now the stench is sickening. Alas, the good human stuff that there lies buried...

When spring comes we shall have about 60,000 men left. But they will not be an army. They will be a broken force, spent. The spirit

of Suvla is simply deplorable. The men have no confidence in the staff, little in London. Every man knows that the last operations were grossly bungled by the general staff, and that Hamilton has led a series of armies into a series of disasters. You would hardly believe the evidence of your own eyes at Suvla. You would refuse to believe that these men were really British soldiers. So badly shaken are they by their miserable defeats, so affected by the lack of water and the monotony of salt beef and rice diet, that they show an atrophy of mind and body that is appalling.

I do not like to dictate this sentence, even for your eyes, but the fact is that after the first day at Suvla orders had to be issued to officers to shoot without mercy any soldiers who lagged behind or loitered in an advance.

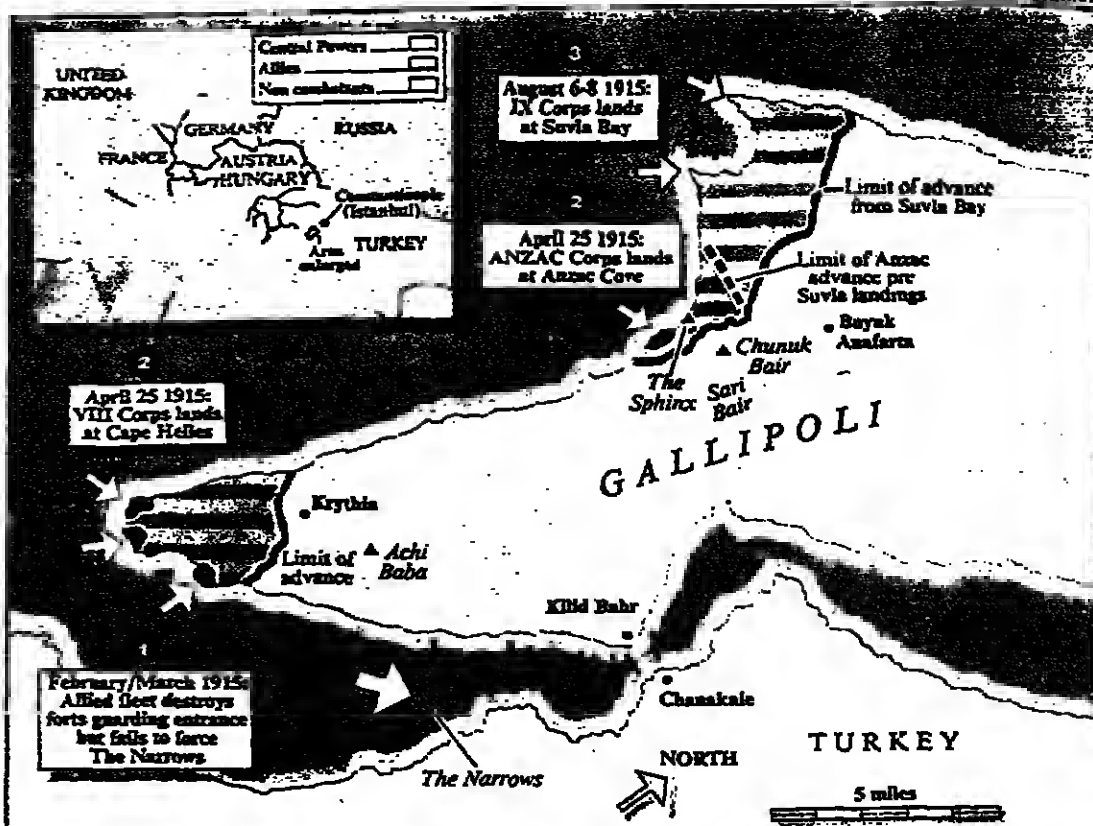
For the general staff and I fear, Hamilton, officers and men have nothing but contempt. They express it fearlessly. That however is talked round every tin of bully beef on the peninsula, and it is only loyalty that holds the forces together.

Undoubtedly, the essential and first step to restore the morale of the shaken forces is to recall him and his Chief of Staff [General Brudenell White], a man more cordially detested in our forces than Erzer Rumor. The continuous and ghastly bungling over the Dardanelles enterprise was to be expected from such a General Staff as the British Army possesses, so far as I have seen it. The conceit and complacency of the red feather men are equalled only by their incapacity.

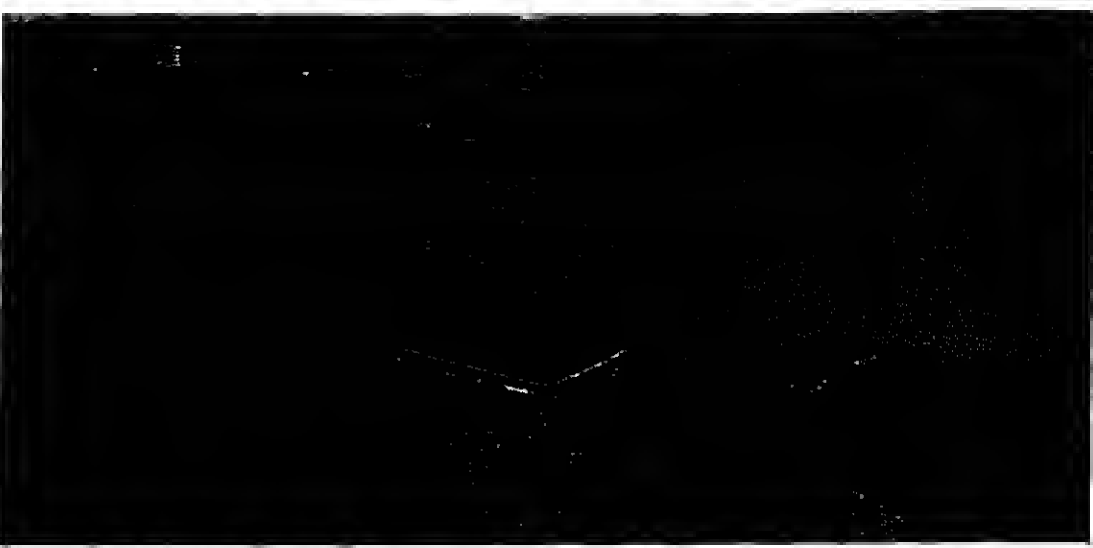
Along the lines of communications, and especially at Mudros, are countless high officers and conceited young cubs only playing at war. What can you expect of men who have never worked seriously, who have lived for their appearance and for social distinction and self-satisfaction, and who are now called on to conduct a gigantic war? Australians now loathe and detest any Englishman wearing red.

Murdoch finished his letter and went to lunch with Geoffrey Dawson, then editor of The Times, at Simpson's-in-the-Strand. Back at the office, Dawson sent a message: could Murdoch be persuaded to repeat what he had said to a member of the War Cabinet?

In the next few dizzying days the unknown reporter was grilled in



Plan of action: more than 120,000 Allied and Turkish troops died fighting for control of the Dardanelles



Turk's eye view: Anzac Cove (top left) today with its sombre memorial, and beachheads curving to North Cove

turn by Sir Edward Carson, chairman of the Dardanelles Committee; Lloyd George, Minister of Munitions; Lord Kitchener, Secretary for War; and by a bristlingly hostile Winston Churchill.

Asquith, meanwhile, asked to see a copy of the Murdoch letter, and at once ordered it duplicated as a Cabinet paper.

Hamilton, shown the letter, dismissed it as title-tattle ("No gentleman would have said it, and no gentleman will believe it," he would later add). But the Cabinet was convinced otherwise. Twenty-four hours later Hamilton was

relieved of his command. Within days, General Monro had arrived to take charge and 48 hours later answered Lord Kitchener's terse cable... "the main issue... staying or leaving?" by recommending evacuation.

Murdoch remained in London for six years, given by his letter an instant entrée to the political establishment and becoming a favourite of the father of modern British journalism, Lord Northcliffe, before returning to Melbourne to begin building a newspaper empire of his own and earn a knighthood, with most

Australians only dimly aware of what he had done.

His son, Rupert, who created an even greater media empire, recalls: "My father remembered what he had seen all his life. Yet he seldom spoke of the part he played."

But Charles Bean, Australia's official war historian and an appalled witness of Gallipoli, wrote: "It is a bit of a shock to find that what the whole system cannot do after months of close attention, a single visitor can do within days... that is make up the mind of the British Government."



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A CHILDHOOD: LADY ANTONIA FRASER

'I was the person who nobody would walk with in the crocodile to Salisbury Cathedral'

When Antonia Fraser was born her father, Frank Pakenham, later to become the Earl of Longford, was a Conservative and a Protestant. By the time she was eight, he was Catholic and Labour. In the meantime he had been an Oxford don, the prospective Parliamentary Labour candidate for Oxford City in 1938, and had become personal assistant to Sir William Beveridge in setting up the Welfare State. Her mother had contested Cheltenham as a Labour candidate in 1935, and was a Workers' Educational Association lecturer.

Antonia was the first of their eight children. The next child, Thomas, 11 months younger, has been her friend throughout life. Over the years American magazines have enjoyed making a point of her aristocratic lineage (the Longford title goes back to 1785), but they miss the point. Antonia Fraser's childhood was academic and socialist politics in the educationally competitive forcing ground of north Oxford.

In fact, her earliest memories are of Oxford: Magdalen lit up for King George V's jubilee, being taken to see her father play rugby, and his freezing rooms at Christ Church. For a time during the war, the Pakenhams were evacuated with the families of three other dons to an Elizabethan manor house. But then, as everyone knew, Oxford was not going to be bombed, so it was back to the Dragon School and a large, turn-of-the-century house.

It was, she thinks, a very special kind of childhood in that, since so many of the parents of the children were dons, it was highly competitive. "The parents took a great interest in their children's education. So, not only were you competing for it, but people did ask you about your school reports and how the children of fellow dons were doing."

"So it was very competitive, but I don't think children mind that as much as it is sometimes supposed, because we all had a lot of fun bicycling about north Oxford and swimming in the Cherwell."

The Dragon School was, of course, really a boys' school - 400 boys to 20 girls, most of whom were daughters of parents who were away. Faced with these kinds of odds, the girls simply got on with being boys. Antonia playing wing three-quarter at rugby, and being top of the form.

Obviously bright, and an inordinately fast reader ("I really quite alarmingly fast: I'd win money off grown-ups for reading Scott's novels. It's just a faculty like running fast, nothing to do with intelligence"), she quickly appreciated that the way to win favour was to do well at school. "My mother was a great believer in education for her children and very competitive, and she was always pleased when I did well."

Her mother was the more practical of her parents, the one

who brought up the children. "My father was almost exactly like he is now. He's done many, many different things, but he was always very absent-minded and vague, famous for taking a taxi from one end of the road to the other."

"He was extremely kind, but also extremely remote. He didn't give me the feeling that I could pour out my heart to him, but I don't think parents of that generation did. I always felt that if I was in trouble he'd be the person I'd go to. And, in fact, when my own children have got into various scrapes, it's been off to lunch at the House of Lords with their grandfather. That's the seal that they're in trouble."

She was already interested in writing and, at the age of 10, wrote a poem for Winston Churchill on the occasion of his birthday, and sent it to Downing Street.

"The next morning, at breakfast, my mother said, 'By the way, Antonia, you were thanked for your poem on the radio last night'. Now the thing about this story is that I wasn't a bit surprised. I thought it was a good poem and so I went off to school very pleased at having been thanked. It wasn't until weeks afterwards that I discovered that what was actually said was 'Mr Churchill wishes to thank all the people who have sent him cards and letters on the occasion of his birthday'."

At 12, she moved to a Church of England girls' boarding school, Godolphin School, at Salisbury, an experience so bleak that she even omits it from her entry in *Who's Who*. "I can't think of anything good about it, except that our house-mistress used to read aloud Dorothy Sayers's *The Man Born To Be King*."

"I've no doubt I was precocious and not very interesting to know for a lot of girls, but, you know, it was horrible. I was the person who nobody would walk with in the crocodile to Salisbury Cathedral."

Some years ago, she mentioned this fact to a gossip columnist and shortly afterwards received a letter from a Godolphin old girl saying, "The truth is you were not popular because you were not very nice."

There was one happy outcome of Godolphin, however, in that one of her old teachers recognized herself in the first *Jemima Shore* mystery, *Quiet As A Nun*. "I had a letter after all those years. She's over 80 now and lives in Bath. We still correspond."

At 13, she chose to become a Catholic. Her father had been a Catholic since the beginning of the war and she had always felt "a great, but perfectly childish, leaning towards the Catholic church. I liked the incense, the mystery. I liked religion and I liked that it was very strange to me."

"My mother didn't become Catholic until 1946, after which the younger children were dunked in the font again. Thomas and I were allowed to choose. So I chose."

The choice meant transferring to a Catholic school, St Mary's Convent in Ascot. "I loved all the



Oxford daughter born to win: Lady Antonia Fraser today and (left, inset) as a child. "It was very competitive, but I don't think children mind that as much as is sometimes supposed"

ritual, the white veils on Sunday and the black veils for going to mass every morning. When my daughter went to the same school 30 years later, I was appalled. They never seemed to go to mass at all."

By now, she was discovering that being the daughter of a Labour Minister (her father was at the War Office in Attlee's post-war government, and ended up as Minister of Aviation) made her somewhat "out of kilter" with the other girls at school.

"When I'd been at the Dragon School, it seemed to me that we were extremely poor in that my father only had a don's salary which was traditionally small, and there were eight of us in the house. So we lived like other people around us, most of whom would, in the war, have been socialists."

"I can remember putting leaflets through letter boxes and asking people, 'Will you be voting for Frank Pakenham?' That was a very important part of my child-

hood. Then, when I went to Godolphin and to Ascot, I found it was very, very old that everybody was a Conservative and that they told jokes about the Labour Party being like a bunch of bananas: green at first, then yellow and then rotten."

As well as being a rapid and wide reader (she was addicted to

nevertheless, by 15 she had taken her Higher School Certificate, in which she did very well. People seemed to take examinations earlier in those days, she thinks, and has found it very odd to find her own children lumbering around the house doing A levels at 18.

The family had by now moved to London and various jobs and hobbies filled in before she went to university. For a time, she was an accounts typist, then studied French poetry at the Lyceum, and then moved on to Fenwick's hat department, from which she was sacked for telling the Press that she believed in "Sis and no Sais" - she didn't want to work on Saturdays, but she did want to be able to sit down.

By now, the family was living in Hampstead Garden Suburb, which she hated because it was so far from the Tube. "So I used to stay with my aunt and uncle, Anthony Powell, who lived in Chester Gate. He was just beginning to write *A Dance to the Music*

of Time, and because he was so charming and interesting, I formed the impression that a writer's life was a very nice one. That had a very great influence on me."

There had probably never been much doubt that she would follow both her parents to Oxford, but she now thinks it was probably a mistake. For the only time in her life she chose not to work very hard and didn't particularly enjoy her days there. "I'd grown up in Oxford. It was my home town. I should probably have gone to Cambridge or somewhere else."

She never thought she was particularly pretty. "I remember as a little girl my nanny saying, 'Never mind, Antonia, Betty Grable has a big mouth, too'. And I rushed to *Photoplay* and there was Betty Grable with this enormous mouth covered in dripping red lipstick. I howled with frustration."

"Although my mother was good at praising academic excellence, she's not at all vain herself, and never saw the necessity to tell me that I was pretty, whether I was or

not. I've reacted against that with my own children." (She has six.) "I'm always telling them how pretty they are. I think they are."

She was, of course, always at parties and always in love. It was a time of coffee bars, Perspex coffee cups and rubber plants. "I couldn't think what was happening to the world. It was so enchanting."

From Oxford she went into publishing and worked for George Weidenfeld until, at 23, she married Hugh Fraser. But already she was writing professionally: her first children's book was published when she was 22.

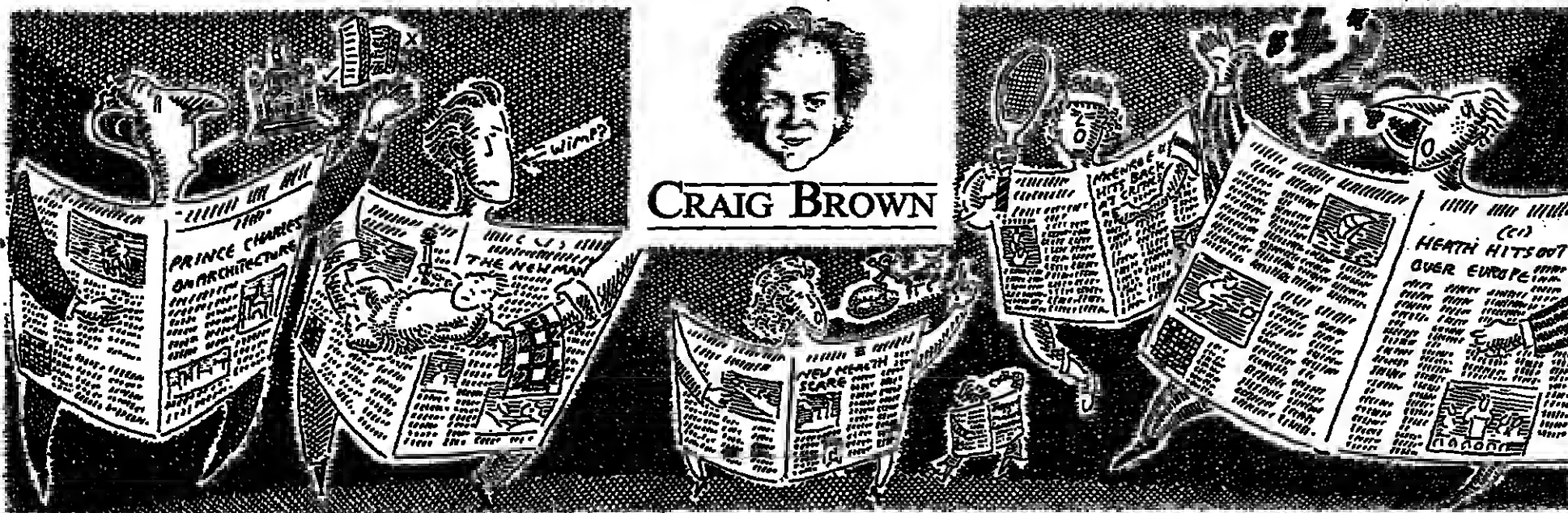
Now married to Harold Pinter, with three grown-up children still living at home, she writes every day, and is still the romantic. Years ago, she said: "It seems to me that we only have a very few romantic moments in our lives, and if we let one go, then our lives are so much the poorer for it."

Photograph by Stephen Markeson

by Ray Connolly

thrillers), she was also by now writing more - romantic thrillers and historical romances. Indeed, the publication this month of her seventh *Jemima Shore* mystery, *The Cavalier Case* (Bloomsbury, £12.99), is continuing a long tradition of novels written in between her historical biographies from school days. At Ascot, what made her happiest was winning the history prize. But one year, when she should have been writing for exams, she disappeared into the library with *Gone With The Wind*.

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From rags to respectability

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At dawn a grey haze from the wood-burning stoves hangs over this squalid ghetto, as South Africa's largest dormitory, Johannesburg's sprawling townships, begins to stir. Students in neatly pressed black and white uniforms set off for school, a man who has found a patch of wasteland tends a herd of goats, and 400,000 blacks, from factory workers to businessmen, begin the seven-mile journey to central Johannesburg to keep the nation's industries going.

Even from the air a new visitor about to touch down at Jan Smuts Airport cannot mistake Soweto, the exotic-sounding acronym for the South-Western Townships.

Most noticeable is the conspicuous absence of swimming pools, dotted so liberally about the gardens of white suburban homes. And there is also Soweto's incongruous setting — a sprawling patchwork of tiny homes aligned along dirt roads and hidden behind the neat, square hills of ancient mine dumps.

Consult most world atlases and you would be hard-pressed to locate South Africa's largest population centre. In its 86-year history of neglect and despair no one ever intended Soweto to become anything more than a "location", a forgotten city kept out of sight where blacks went to sleep in the evening before returning to work the next day.

Even in Soweto's infancy the omens were not good.

The first settlement near the present township consisted of an emergency camp for black migrant workers who, in 1904, had to be evacuated from their squalid dwellings in Johannesburg when bubonic plague swept through the community.

Since then the township's legacy has been one of cruelty and violence perpetrated by the authorities against the inhabitants and by Sowetans against each other, a by-product of overcrowding, high unemployment and poor schooling.

Attempts to improve conditions were set back with the advent of the National Party and the re-

Despair gives way to hope as an affluent black middle class emerges in Soweto, reports Nicholas Beeston

movals enforced under apartheid legislation. From 1955 to 1968 more than 22,000 black families and 6,500 single people were rounded up by the police and dumped unceremoniously in Soweto from the Johannesburg district of Sophiatown, since tastelessly renamed Triomf (Triumph) for its white inhabitants.

Even under more reform-minded National Party governments the few improvements to the township were overshadowed by outbreaks of violence.

On June 16, 1976, 15 people were killed when students demonstrated against being forced to learn in Afrikaans in school. Since the uprising and subsequent riots in the mid-1980s hardly a family in the township has been left unscathed.

The hardships endured by the long-suffering Sowetans will be familiar to Nelson Mandela, who three weeks ago returned to his modest brick bungalow in Orlando West for the first time in 27 years and told 120,000 of the township's youngsters that the existence of the ghetto in its present form would be unacceptable in a new South Africa.

But if he finds time to tour the township he will hardly be able to recognize the dramatic changes that have occurred since his incarceration.

Opposite his home, across the now-paved street, a complex of roomy villas with gardens and

garages known locally as "Beverly Hills" has sprouted up to house the black elite of doctors, lawyers and businessmen.

Highways, a university and a shopping centre, all the trappings of an infrastructure previously denied Sowetans, have mushroomed in the past decade.

And throughout the township, judging from the luxury cars and the new housing developments, there are signs that a new class, the "buppies" (black upwardly mobile professionals), is making its mark.

Once banned from owning businesses and property and restricted by law to menial jobs, black businessmen involved with everything from fast food restaurants to small factories are blossoming, and with them an affluent black middle class is emerging.

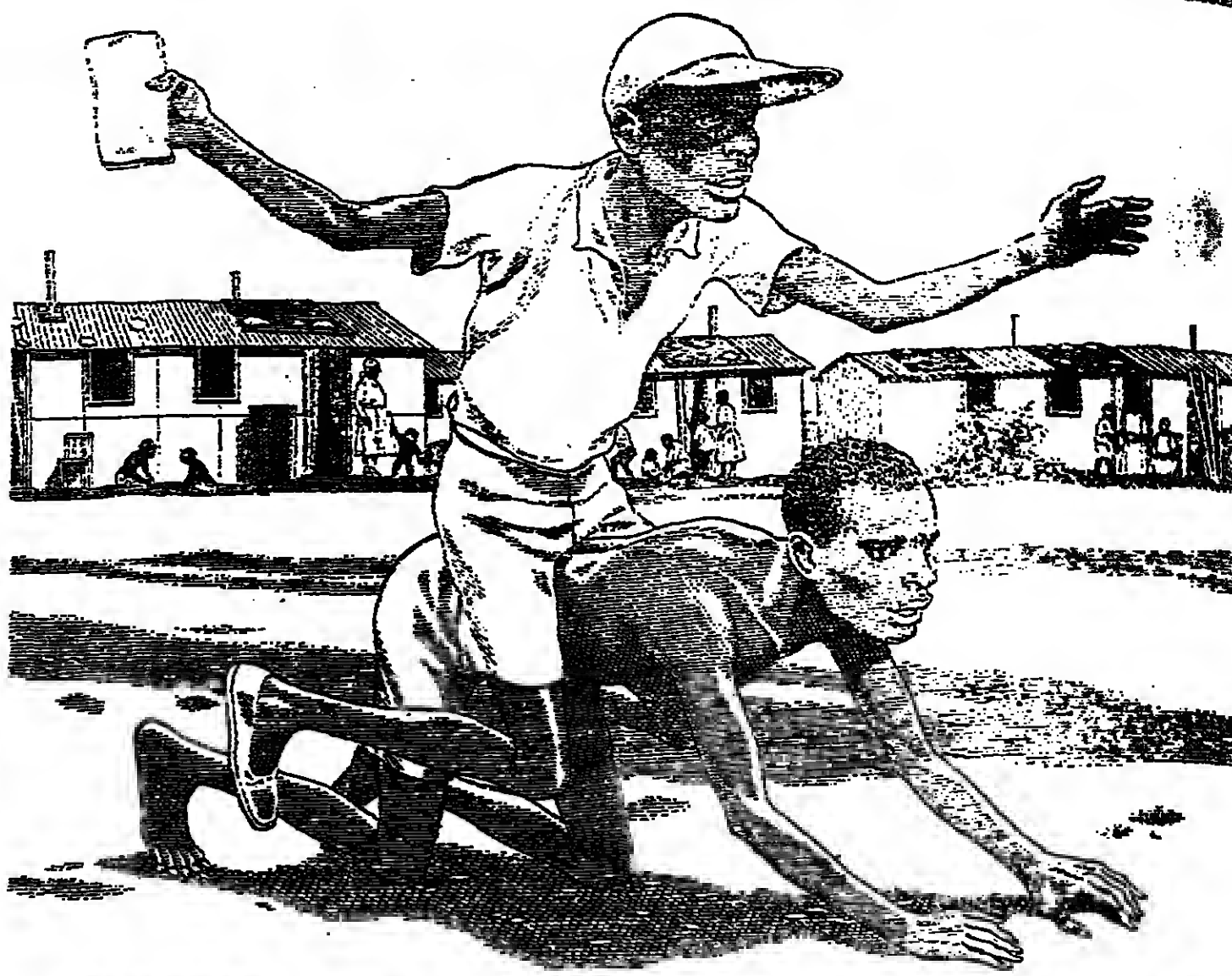
You don't have to look much further than Godfrey Moloi's Blue Fountain jazz club to be struck by the dramatic changes.

Mr Moloi, aged 55, self-confessed one-time gangster, boot-legger, jazz musician and now respected member of Soweto society, looks like a Dixieland jazz musician with a straw boater covering his bald head, two-tone brogues and an array of signet rings, one bearing a coat of arms he recently had designed for his family.

Mr Moloi's personal history, related in a recent autobiography, *My Life*, embodies the story of the township.

The son of an Anglican priest, Mr Moloi and his family were forced out of Johannesburg's Prospect district in 1936 by the authorities and relocated to a tiny three-room "matchbox" house in Soweto.

"Have you heard of the 'Donkey Game'?" he asked. "That was a game I played as a child. One boy in the street who had richer parents than the rest of us would come out every day with a slice of buttered bread and shout 'Who will be my donkey?' We would all fall to our knees and start baying. The boy would select his donkey of the day and ride around on his back before allowing him to have a bite of his bread. I was good at playing the comic and I was his favourite donkey, but I don't want to see that happening again in Soweto."



Mr Moloi runs a scholarship programme for gifted black students and a schools football competition aimed at keeping young blacks in the classroom.

"I am trying to set some standards in the community. For instance, today I received a call from the Foreign Ministry asking me to go to Pretoria to see the minister, P. W. Botha."

"We get white people driving all the way from Johannesburg to come to my club. I want to prove to my people that we can do it if we try."

One of his regulars at the Blue Fountain, a successful entrepreneur called Sam, eulogizes Mr Moloi and what he stands for.

"Someone tried to get in here tonight wearing shorts," he said between sips of his vodka and soda. "Mr Moloi won't let any person in off the street. We told him to go home and only come back when he was properly dressed. I think we should make this club members only."

The talk this evening is not of

revolution but of more down-to-earth bourgeois concerns. "The problem with the housing market in South Africa is the high interest rates which have pushed mortgages up and made it very difficult for first-time buyers," complained Joe, a black property developer who sounds more like a Clapham estate agent than a man who, until a few years ago, was regularly arrested by police for pass law offences.

The bible for this new breed of young blacks is *Triumph*, a glossy fashion magazine which last month treated its readers to society photographs of black millionaires attending the J & B Metropolitan Handicap, one of the premier events on the South African horse-racing calendar, a feature on the new Audi Turbo, canoeing in Natal and Yves Saint Laurent's new collection, modelled in the tiny kingdom of Lesotho.

"When we first published there was criticism that we were following the rules of the oppressor," said the magazine's editor Maude Motanyane. "But now we are accepted, even Zwelakhe Sisulu (son of African National Congress veteran Walter Sisulu) drives an Audi."

For some, like the richest black businessman in South Africa, Richard Maponya, who owns the BMW dealership in Soweto, wealth and respectability have taken him away from Soweto to the prosperous white northern suburbs of Johannesburg.

When the Group Areas Act, which restricts races to certain areas, is eventually lifted, there are fears that well-to-do blacks will abandon the township to those who cannot afford to move and condemn Soweto indefinitely to sub-class status.

Asked about the threat to the township's future, Mr Mandela said: "When Archbishop Tutu had the chance to move into an

affluent white area he chose to remain among his own people here in Soweto.

"The blacks in Soweto won't move into white suburbs overnight, many don't have the money and others don't have the inclination."

Certainly one man who will not budge is Mr Moloi.

"I will never leave Soweto," he said. "It is my dream that people will be allowed to build their own homes, run their businesses and turn this place into a proper city one day."

"We ought to get rid of apartheid but that does not mean that all the races will start living together. You just have to look at Britain or the United States — in fact anywhere in the world, Christians don't live with Muslims, or Protestants with Catholics, or blacks with whites."

"I will be here to the end," he vowed. "I even have my grave ready here. I would not want to die anywhere else."

MUSEUMS

Homes for a missing Muse

More artists and fewer academics — the major European museums need new heart, Kenneth Hudson argues

Most European museums, including those in Britain, set out to teach their visitors something.

Learning is not before pleasure, which is another way of saying that museums have too many academically minded people on their staffs and too few artists and poets.

This is most noticeable in art galleries, where paintings are still filed along walls exactly as they were a century ago, and visitors leave feeling that they had been studying for an examination in art history.

In the past 20 years, a number of pioneering museums on the Continent have broken away from this tradition, in the belief that a museum's main task is to change attitudes. This means appealing to the heart as much as the head. It also means a big shake-up in the town art industry, so that places such as the Louvre, the Uffizi and the British Museum, which are essentially study warehouses, no longer receive such a marked priority. The museum map of Europe needs redrawing.

The Galerie David d'Angers, in Angers, western France, could be described as the most important European art museum since the Second World War. Its curator, Vivienne Huchard, saw her opportunity.

Pierre-Jean David, the inspiration for the museum, was born in Angers six years before the French Revolution and made a name for himself as a designer of public monuments and medals. He is known as David d'Angers, to distinguish him from Jacques-Louis David, Napoleon's favourite painter.

When he died in 1856, David left a large collection of plaster models of his bronze statues to his native town. These lay in the stores of the Musée des Beaux-Arts for almost 130 years until Mme Huchard thought of a way of putting them to good use.

Next to the Musée des Beaux-Arts was a ruined medieval church, roofless and abandoned. Mme Huchard decided to restore the building and install her army of plaster statues, creating a David d'Angers museum around them. "The plasterers are the originals," she says. "The bronzes in Paris and elsewhere are only copies."

But the statues are only a

beginning. What this remarkable museum offers is a complete portrait of David — who he was, how he worked, what his domestic life was like and what his contemporaries thought of him. Visitors leave confident they know as much about David d'Angers as anyone else in the world. And that, for an art museum, really is a revolution.

You get much the same feeling at the Paul Delvaux Museum at St Idesbald, along the coast from Ostend. M Delvaux, now in his nineties, is a much-loved figure in Belgium. His museum is not a study of his work, but a study of his life, which is like the paintings, which are not wildly obscure.

The lesson to be learnt from Angers and St Idesbald seems to be that the future of art museums lies with places which are small and concentrate on a single artist with local associations. As soon as several artists have to share the same building, intellectualism, schools and movements take over and the common man goes elsewhere. Museums have allowed

themselves to be prisoners of their titles for too long. But the barriers are gradually coming down.

Ennen, a small town in the north-east of The Netherlands, has one of Europe's great pioneering museums, the Noorder Dierpark. It is an invigorating blend of zoo, natural history museum, ethnographical museum and conservation centre, based on the conviction that man and other living creatures are interdependent.

Under the guidance of another museum genius, Aleid Rensen-Oosting, the museum has enjoyed a spectacular growth in popularity during the past 20 years. The Noorder Dierpark is a crusading museum, not an academic retreat, and it provides a quickfire series of bright, well-designed exhibitions to encourage frequent return visits. There are no cages; elephants and giraffes stroll about together and exotic butterflies settle on the heads of visitors. How

wonderful it would be if the Natural History Museum and the Museum of Mankind in London were to move their public exhibitions to a more modest and suitable building in Regent's Park Zoo.

Until the Seventies, industrial and technical museums were precisely that. Then Peter Schirmbeck, at Rüsselsheim, near Frankfurt, smashed the mould. He broadened the concept of an industrial museum and showed that national trends could be more effectively illustrated in local terms.

Rüsselsheim is where Opel cars are made. Herr Schirmbeck used the fact to create a new type of industrial museum. He showed, in an impressionistic style, what the small town was like in the 1870s before Adam Opel arrived to build his factory, and what the factory had done to change the lives of local people.

Today, there are certainly more roots in Continental museums, more people with the courage and ability to select telling images. This is nowhere better illustrated than at Heideheim, near Stuttgart, in the new Museum of Coaches, Carriages, Carts and Wagons.

The display here has been selected and arranged to place horse-drawn transport within its social context, showing how changes in transport have affected people's habits and thinking. Care has been taken to provide variety, interest and drama in the presentations and to ensure the museum reveals a sense of history, not merely a series of objects.

In the art of selection and of making every exhibit in a museum work hard, the Swedes and the West Germans are making the running. It is no accident that both are wealthy countries, and not afraid to throw things away.

The impoverished British, by contrast, are lagging behind. We are the people who lumber ourselves with enormous suitcases when we go on holiday because we cannot decide what to leave behind. The ability to prune hard, to be simple, and to rely on symbols are the marks of an advanced culture.

● Kenneth Hudson is director of the European Museum of the Year Award. His Cambridge Guide to the Museums of Europe will be published later this year.

COLLECTING

Peter Philp reports on the enduring attraction of duelling weapons

Pistols to fight for

A things to collect, duelling pistols fall into the fearsome but fascinating category. The thought of two men standing back to back, taking 10 paces and turning to fire at each other in the name of honour still sparks off a *frisson*, however much you may agree with Queen Victoria who, in 1844, was said to be "desirous of devising some expedient by which the barbarous practice of duelling should be as much as possible discouraged".

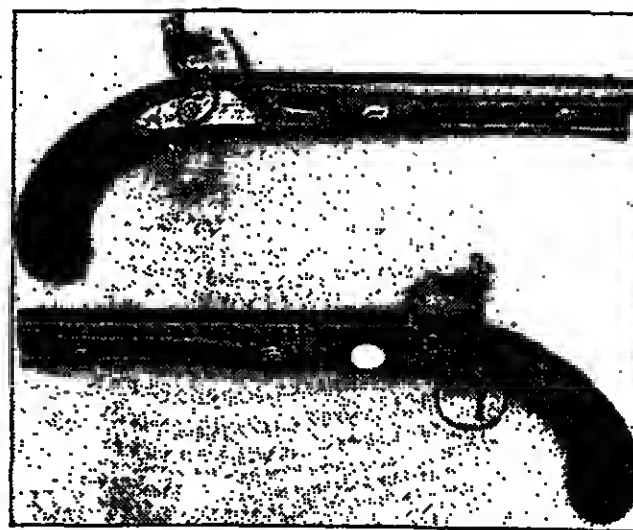
Legally, anyone found guilty of killing his opponent was a murderer and should have been sentenced to be hanged, but very few British judges were willing to convict.

In the reign of George III (1760-1820), 172 duels were fought in Britain, of which 91 ended in death. Confrontations were commonplace between army officers and newspaper editors, instead of having to defend expensive libel actions, were often called out to settle matters quickly and cheaply. In 1821 the editor of the *London Magazine*, John Scott, died in a duel, and in 1835 Mr Black of the *Morning Chronicle* had to face an inmate reader.

On the Continent, duels of honour (as distinct from early judicial combats and trials by battle) were fought from the 15th century onwards, often for frivolous reasons: a Neapolitan aristocrat faced 14 opponents to uphold his claim that Dante was a finer poet than Adorno. He later confessed that he had never read works by either of them. In England, it was only after the Restoration of Charles II in 1660 that, following a lead from France, duelling became a fashionable way of settling disputes.

From that time pistols began to enjoy preference over swords, because the earlier, somewhat unreliable types of firing mechanism — match-lock, wheel lock and snaphaunce — had been largely replaced by the flintlock. The first known example of this type of weapon was made for Louis XIII circa 1610-15 by an artist-craftsman, Maxim le Bourgeois of Lisieux. By about 1700 it had come into general use throughout Europe.

Although many flintlock pistols are richly decorated with carving, engraving and silver mounts, the purpose-built duelling weapon was



Pistols for two: flintlock duelling weapons made by John Twigg circa 1785, sold by Christie's South Kensington for £4,800

more often plain, with brown or blue barrels that did not distract the marksman's eye by reflecting light. Some had rifled bores, but these were considered unsporting by dedicated duellists. Some, however, were sufficiently devoted to have pistols made with rifling that stopped a few inches short of the muzzle, so that, on cursory inspection, it would pass unnoticed.

On firing the flintlock produced live sparks which gave a warning to a wary target and made it unreliable in wet weather. To overcome these difficulties, a Scottish clergyman, Alexander Forsyth, devised a method that he

patented in 1807, using a fulminate to set off the charge. This proved unsuitable for the flintlock, but experiments led to the invention of the percussion cap pistol, for which a well-known gun-maker, Joseph Egg, claimed the credit.

In fact, a number of gunsmiths contributed variations and improvements that, when applied to the duelling pistol, made it a deadly, all-weather weapon, justifying Queen Victoria's concern about the number of her soldiers and politicians who were being killed or maimed in duels.

A fine pair of pistols commands more than double the price of a single specimen, but a good shot may feel it safe to economize by buying only one — a late-17th century flintlock holster pistol, perhaps, for about £500, against £3,000-£5,000 for a fine pair of 18th or early-19th century duelling pistols by a well-known maker.

The faking of antique firearms has become a small but important branch of the armaments industry, and although I have heard no loud reports concerning cases of disputed authenticity ending in the traditional demand for "pistols for two and coffee for one", it is safest to buy from reputable specialists in the field.

● Specialist auctioneers: Willis & Willis, West Street Auction Galleries, Lewes, Sussex (0273 480208); Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, SW7 (01-581 7611).

● Specialist dealers: Michael German, 38b Kensington Church Street, W8 (01-597 2771); Arbour Antiques, Poets' Arbour, Sheep Street, Stratford-upon-Avon (0789 293453).

SALES GUIDE

LIGHT FANTASTIC: Hall lanterns, wall sconces and chandeliers are included in this sale of light fittings and furniture. Also an unusual George III oval Pembroke table (1800-1810), handsome Edwardian Carlton House desk by Edwards and Roberts (est £4,000-25,000), Henry Spencer & Sons, 20 The Square, Reigate, Surrey (0777 708833). Sale: Mon 11am.

STICKING POINT: Private collection of jewelled stickpins. Largely Victorian, the 78 lots include stage and horses' heads, beads, squirrels and a salmon (est £20-£120/£250-£300). Also an attractive Fatze enamel brooch of polychrome cloisonné enamel (est £3,000-24,000). Phillips, 1 Old King Street, Bath (0225 310605/310709). Viewing: today 9am-1pm, Mon 9-10.30am. Sale: Mon 11am.

COIN CAVALCADE: Ancient, English and fine coins, commemorative medals and bank notes. Some gold coins from Dutch and Spanish treasuries. Christie's, King Street, St James's, London SW1 (01-839 9060) Viewing: Sun 2-5pm, Mon 9am-4pm. Sale: Tues 10am and 2pm.

GLASS GALORE: A 61-lot collection of English drinking glasses opens this auction of European glass and ceramics (est £140-£160/£500-£800). Probably the most expensive will be a wine glass with an opaque twist stem enamelled in the belly workshops with a vine border (2800-£1,000). Phillips, 101 New Bond Street, London W1 (01-629 5602). Viewing: Sun 2-5pm, Mon and Tues 9.30am-4.30pm, Wed 8.30-10am. Sale: Wed 11am and 2.30pm.

FINE FLOWERS: Botanical prints from Dr Robert Thomson's "Temple of Flora" 1799-1807 are the highlights. The 38 prints are estimated to make between £200-£300 and £2,000-£3,000. Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (01-581 7611). Viewing: Mon 1-7.30pm, Tues 9am-5pm, Wed 9am-10am. Sale: Wed 2pm.

John Shaw

● On Wednesday The Times guide to antiques and collectables focuses on Oriental textiles and carpets



THE NED SHERRIN COLUMN

Gloves off for an understudy

I have in my time been understudied by Hermiooe Gindgold and played (as narrator of *Side By Side By Sondheim*) by artists as varied as Peggy Lee, Dorothy Lamour, Russell Harty, Michael Aspel, Sheridan Morley and two glove puppets called Kukla and Ollie. But I had to wait until Saturday to be a stand-in myself — for Frank Warren, the gunned-down boxing promoter.

I have never met Mr Warren although I did once shake hands with Terry Marsh, the fighter accused of trying to arrange his death, a few years ago when he was made a Man of the Year.

I owed my new role to BBC Northern Ireland who had booked Mr Warren (suddenly indisposed) to appear on *The Show*, an ambitious late Saturday night entertainment which is transmitted from its Belfast studio to Belfast. Two comedies and a host of actors conducted 75 minutes of satirical sketches, songs, interviews, badinage and general jollity.

It was my first visit to Ulster. My man in Deal had warned me that he was once lifted off the floor of a pub in Earls Court by the late Patrick Magee for using the word and not put down until he corrected it to "the six counties", so I travelled cautiously. The journey from the airport skirted the top of the Falls Road but my visit was cocooned in car, hotel and studio.

What did surprise me was the range of subjects covered in the sketches and the number of public figures mocked by the actors and impersonators. Ian Paisley, Gerry Fitt, Barry McGuigan, John Cole, Sir John Hermon, Peter Brooke and Gerry Adams were all treated with scant respect, and the impersonation of Adams was wittily done as a soundless mime to accommodate current broadcasting restrictions.

My fellow guest was the film critic Alexander Walker. Over dinner he told me that in 1987 he judged an Ulster film festival. He spoke lyrically of *The Best Man*, the winning entry, produced by a Catholic priest. It has been shown on RTE but not on British screens, big or small. His enthusiasm made me think we are missing a gem.

I AM NOT a great fan of Irish jokes but John Junkin has one which he swears is true. He was touring with Neil Simon's play, *The Odd Couple*, and they reached Nottingham where Junkin and his co-star celebrated their successful opening not wisely but too well.

When John retired late to bed in his hotel he dropped into a deep sleep. Half an hour later he became

aware of a noise which, as he wrenched himself into consciousness, he recognized as a thunderous pounding on his bedroom door.

He groped his way blindly to open it and was confronted by the Irish night porter, who looked at him solicitously. "Excuse me, sir," he said, "are you the gentleman who's locked out of his room?"

THE STOLEN coaster mystery is ravaging BBC Radio. Suspects in this crime of the decade include Sir Anthony Jay, Alan Coren and his daughter Victoria who may have been working in tandem, Ray Davies of the Kinks, Carol Thatcher, Victoria Mather, Jools Holland, Andy Kershaw and John Walters, the senior Radio One producer. I have been interrogated but I am convinced of my innocence.

The victim of this dastardly crime is Caroline Millington, the dynamic, crop-haired director of CAMP (BBC speak for Current Affairs Magazine Programmes). The missing objects which she prizes above Fabergé are cardboard coasters decorated with a cartoon of the Rt Hon Norman Tebbit, the man who sees the BBC as "a sunset home for third-rate minds and Red Queens". Mr Tebbit features on the coasters as Prospero with Ariel, in a parody of a famous BBC design.

Suspects gained access to Ms Millington's office during a party she threw to celebrate 200 editions of *Loose Ends*. When their revels ended their hostess discovered her loss. She has given Ian Gardhouse, her producer, strict instructions to retrieve the valued coasters. Anyone having information about this crime should ring Mr Gardhouse, not Nick Ross.

NO ONE should complain about lack of variety in recent mainstream West End offerings. Of three recent first nights, Alan Ayckbourn's *Man of the Moment* at the Globe wins for confident marshalling of all the elements of a commercial hit. *Exchange*, the Russian play adapted by Michael Frayn at the Vaudeville, was more solemn but it eschewed those clouds of grey which Ira Gershwin assured us any Russian play can guarantee.

On the first night, a real drama was played out on stage in tandem with the written plot. Our attention was riveted to a creaking basket chair which threatened to disintegrate to Act Two under the weight of the dying Colin Douglas.

By the time it was Doreen Mantle's turn to expire on it the leading man, Martin Jarvis, had cleverly fixed some support but Miss Mantle still perched suspensefully on the edge.

The first night audience for Jerry Hall's debut in *Bus Stop* was a severe disappointment. It behaved like the crowd of celebs we had expected, prolonging the interval interminably in the bar and in social groups in the stalls, in spite of being severely short on glamour.

Despite good performances, the

limp old play never grasped the attention of a group which consisted largely of gossip columnists, critics, media folk and showbiz lawyers. I did see Jade Jagger, and Ross Benson told me there were two marquises upstairs, but it was not much of a turn-out.

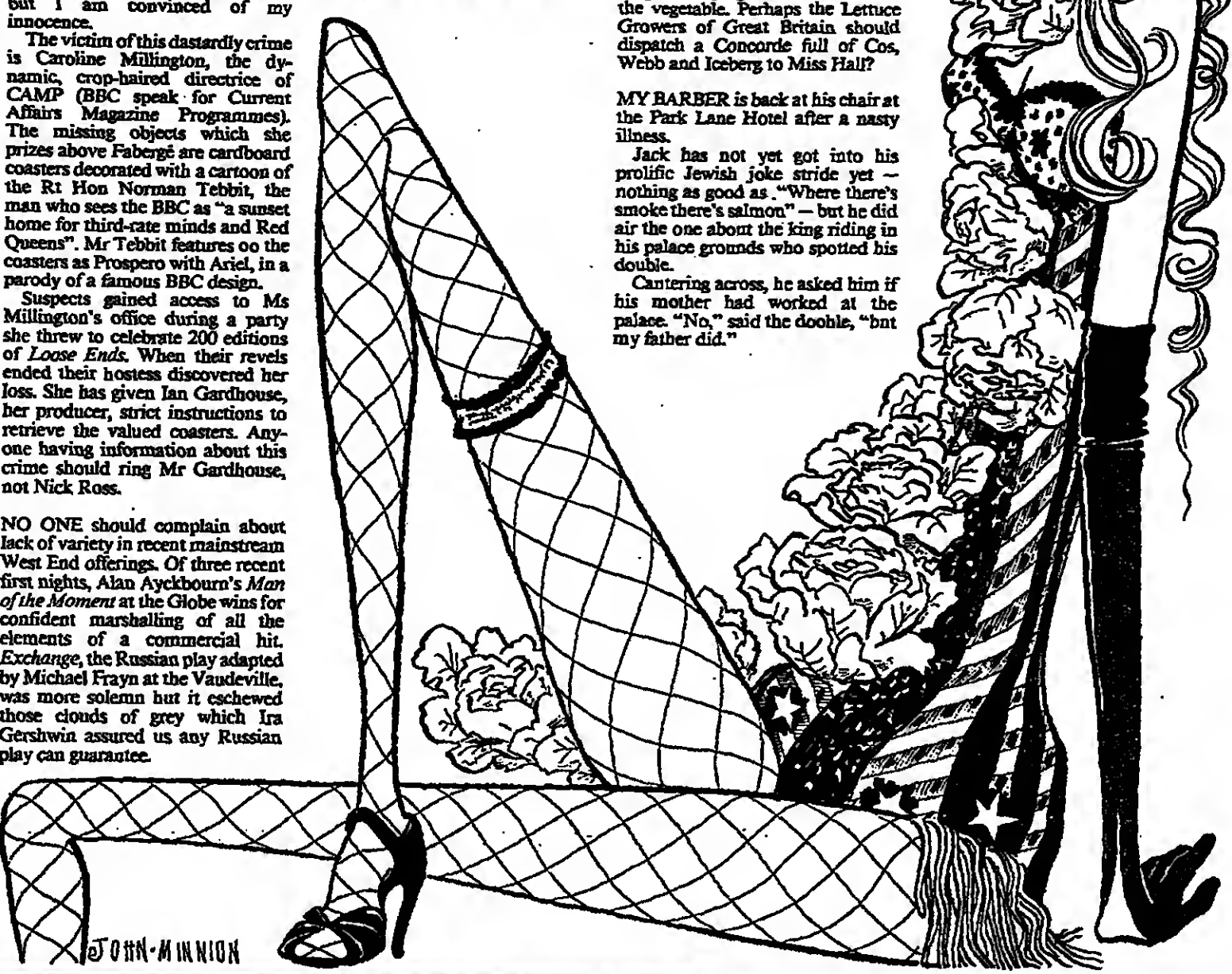
Milton Shulman said he spent two weeks with Marilyn Monroe when she was filming *Bus Stop* in Phoenix, Arizona. She spent most of the time on the phone to Arthur Miller, but Shulman had the ear of her press agent.

At one point the president of the Lettuce Growers of America wanted publicly to present Monroe with a crate of lettuce to celebrate an anniversary. When the publicity turned him down, the president suggested flying in a DC10 full of the vegetable. Perhaps the Lettuce Growers of Great Britain should dispatch a Concorde full of Cos, Webb and Iceberg to Miss Hall?

MY BARBER is back at his chair at the Park Lane Hotel after a nasty illness.

Jack has not yet got into his prolific Jewish joke stride yet — nothing as good as "Where there's smoke there's a salmon" — but he did air the one about the king riding in his palace grounds who spotted his double.

Cantering across, he asked him if his mother had worked at the palace. "No," said the dobbie, "but my father did."



DAVID GOWER

If I were...

If I were Viv Richards, the West Indies cricket captain, I would not be too despondent, despite the fact that my much fancied team has just been on completely the wrong end of the First Test contest with England.

Of course, I would be aware that the local fans were once too impressed with our performance, particularly after our whitewash of the same opponents last time they were here. In the Caribbean we prefer to call it a blackwash.

Well, there won't be one of those this time. But I don't think anyone should make too much of this unexpected defeat. I still have a strong side and we are confident of resuming normal service long before the series is over. I might dwell for a moment on the fact that four members of this new England team were born in the country they now represent. Batsmen Allan Lamb and Robin Smith come from South Africa, and two of their successful bowlers, Devon Malcolm and Gladstone Small, actually have their origins in the West Indies, to Jamaica and Barbados.

In recent years it is we West Indians who have been



... Viv Richards

praised for the way we prepare for matches through fitness and practice. Now I notice the English are proving the worth of these same qualities. I would remind my team of the desirability of setting the standard again immediately.

In the next breath I might slip it to Malcolm Marshall that he looked a little tired and under-prepared in Jamaica, not because I believe it, but because it might make him just that bit angrier for the next contest.

Before that next Test, I might even have a proper net practice myself instead of just taking Dennis, the Australian physiotherapist, on to the edge of the field for a gentle knock up, like a First World War lieutenant and his batman making light of the latest enemy offensive.

On second thoughts, I might decide against setting this coercive example to the troops. With my 109 Test matches, the best part of 8,000 Test runs and an average of 51 runs a match, I might stick with whatever makes me happy. And I can't wait to prove the point on my next visit to the crease.

The next Test match is to be played on about the best batting wicket in the Caribbean. Just to show I was taking things a little seriously, I might even consider raising myself in the batting order, from number six which seems to be the compulsory position for senior West Indies captains.

One thing is certain: no one will find me downhearted. That is not what being a West Indian has taught me to be. My 38th birthday is next week on the day of the fourth one-day international. I intend to celebrate that day with a win, weather permitting, and set the scene for the start of the Test match three days later.

What is more, if that nice Mr Gower, who used to lose all those Tests to me, has managed to lay his hands on a bottle of Bollinger somewhere, that might help cheer me up as well.

CAMPUS

Stand up for the union

Birmingham students have voted to back the NUS, says Kerry Bretherton

All I'm saying is the N.U.S. were around in 1984 and Orwell wasn't.



SED.

In the weeks following one of the best attended general meetings, Birmingham University Guild of Students has ever seen (approximately 90 per cent voted in favour of staying affiliated to the National Union of Students), it is worth reflecting on what students want and expect from our national union. Ninety per cent is a conclusive majority and one which should cause critics of the NUS to ask themselves why students should support the evils it supposedly represents.

The record of the NUS is hard to dispute. It provides sabbatical officers throughout the country with specialized briefings on various subjects. It trains student union officers on everything from negotiation to how to conduct academic appeals. Through the National Students Services Organization, for NUS members, student unions save thousands of pounds through bulk buying.

What of the malignant evil which we are warned can undermine the very fabric of our nation? What of the closed shop? Those who use the argument about compulsory membership to attack the NUS betray their ignorance. The NUS is a federation made up of member unions. This

puts it in the same category as that other revolutionary and reactionary organization, the European Community. In the dim and distant days of my childhood, a referendum was held to discuss whether this country should join the EC. I've never heard anyone seriously suggest that only those who wanted Britain to join the EC should become members. People accept that the benefits of membership are gained by the country and it is simply not practical for me to be a member of the EC and you not to be a member. I could not say to a student at Birmingham University that I

would only help them with an academic appeal if they were a member of the NUS. The critics of the NUS ought to take a look at the real world and work on constructive suggestions for improving the student welfare network.

Of course, there are times when the NUS is its own worst enemy. Fortunately, it is finally realizing the importance of public relations. The National Fun Run is organizing in aid of Oxfam projects in Southern Africa is to be held on the Birmingham University campus on March 11. This event will show the public that student unions

don't just do campaigning work. The NUS needs more members like Cosmo Hawkes, organizer of this event.

The next conference, at Easter, will elect a new national executive. Fortunately, for the first time in many years a strong group of independents is challenging for many of the key positions, including president. If public perceptions of the NUS are to improve and the union is to maintain its credibility, then students must recognize that student wings of national political parties are dated and redundant. A Labour president negotiating with a Conservative government or a Conservative president negotiating with a Labour government doesn't seem very logical. An independent would realistically be able to speak on behalf of all students, and would crush the arguments that suggest NUS is too party politicized. I favour Cosmo Hawkes for the next president of the NUS and I hope our union will be run by independents.

Students at Birmingham University have expressed their overwhelming support for the NUS and I hope their faith is rewarded.

● The author is president of the Birmingham University Guild of Students.

Lesson in humility

This time last year I bought a copy of Yeats's collected poems and set myself the task of reading at least six or seven poems a day. This wasn't so much the New Year resolution of a would-be intellectual, as that of a terrified finalist. October found me in the postgraduate world of TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) standing before a room of Italian men aged between 18 and 40. And if this had been my dream six or seven years ago, it certainly wasn't any more.

Perhaps the greatest lesson to be learned from living in a country where you don't speak the language is that without the control of that potency you are very small indeed. I was, without doubt, the smallest

person in Asti, and I was undergoing one enormous lesson in humility.

Asti is a provincial town in the vine-growing region of Piedmont, northern Italy. I hadn't been there long before I became aware of the mutability of the word "provincial". From England, it had meant "Italian", small and friendly, a real community — everything it needed to be for me to forgive it for not being Florence, Venice or Rome.

But once installed, I woke up to find that most of the charm had gone. "Provincial" meant claustrophobic, proud, insular, and not a little sus-

picious of outsiders. "There is a saying," Paolo said, "that the Piedmontese have a false smile. You mustn't take offence; they are suspicious of their neighbours, let alone a foreigner."

My students were intrigued. "You had the whole of Italy before you," they said, "and you chose Asti. Why? Why, indeed?"

The cold weather brought out the fur coats and made the beggars with empty boxes more obvious. Friday's conversation group was time for me to air my disgust. What was the social security system in Italy? Were people in-

terested in charitable organizations? Would they say that Italians were materialistic? Who was this angry Englishwoman with a perpetual bee in her bonnet?

On my way to visit a friend in Ivrea, I found an English newspaper. One sentence in particular stood out. The Government urged the privatization of all old people's homes, and "clients" must pay for the services they receive. Things in England were equally grim. It was a relief to find articles to show my conversation group. They were not surprised; but next time, could I please find a copy of *The Sun*?

Bridget Frost
● The author is a graduate from Cambridge University.

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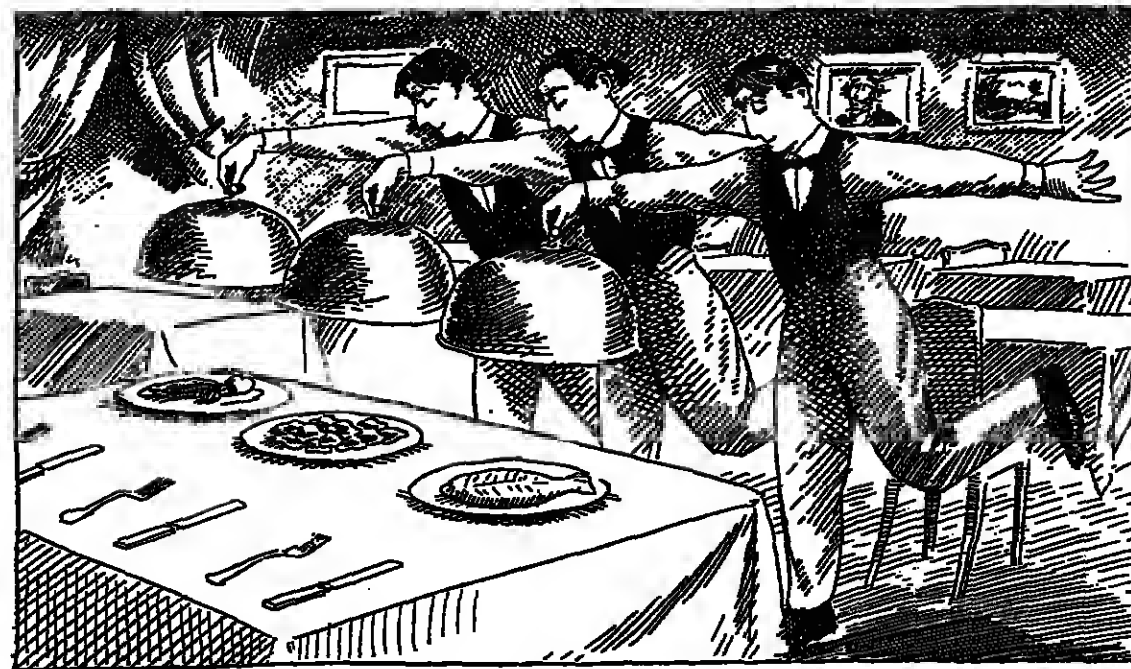
Pomp and pomposity

Jonathan Meades dines on ceremony
and witnesses the antiquated ritual
of the tripartite synchronized dome lift

In order, no doubt, to remind its customers that it is named after the local and tubercular poet (and out, say, after Don Scalliwag? Keats, metal broker of Tottenham Hale), Keats has loaded its interior with shelves of books. Very tasteful. A restaurant named after Doo could do itself out with lumps of sump, bales of swarf, swags of chain. But John demands sensitive treatment. So there are not only books but portraits (why Gladstone?), terracotta busts, prints, etc. The dining-rooms are high-ceilinged and their tongue and groove walls are painted in crackle-effect — an undercoat of brick red applied to it a coat of dirty cream into which is mixed an agent that makes it dry so quickly it does not fully cover the undercoat. The result appears ancient, peeling, weathered paint or the site of a fire. There is also a load of highly patterned carpet and a few furlongs of curtain tied by thick, tasselled dressing gown cord. It's rather dim, lit only by lights above each portrait. The sum of all this is a precious and faintly kitsch rendering of a country house library, a discreet set for a telly programme about connoisseurship, fine bindings and arty arcana. It does not make for a particularly relaxed atmosphere. Although the tables are well spaced, people tend to whisper; the illusion of a library (or something other than a restaurant) is so potent that punters probably begin to believe that they are dining in such a room and behave accordingly. This is abetted by the service, which is the far side of formal. The synchronized lifting of domes from dishes is a bore and should be eschewed. So, indeed, should domes; they had a function to fulfil when kitchens were separated from dining-rooms by draughty corridors, but in a modern restaurant (albeit one which seeks to recreate an ersatz past) they are embarrassing encumbrances. Similarly the practice of not allowing diners to pour their own wine is a genteel anachronism that should be quashed. There is a difference between serving staff refilling empty glasses from a bottle on the table and the ritual fetching of a bottle from halfway across the dining-room to pour therefrom only a finger of wine. I doubt if the ceremony surrounding dinner at

Keats is much good for the nerves of either punters or staff. And it certainly does little to promote appreciation of the fine and confident cooking. Equally, the ceremony seems to militate against utility: one of the people I was dining with was brought cheese as his main course. Quite what occasioned this aberration is a puzzle. What it meant was that all our main courses were taken back to the kitchen so that the staff would not be denied the chance of a tripartite synchronized dome lift. The *matinee d'* was energetically apologetic about this both at the time and after we had finished, when he said: "Can I please you with something — a Cognac, perhaps..." The very location — *Can I please you* — seems indicative of the problem this place has in reaching an accord with its customers. In speech, as in behaviour, the colloquial has an easing effect, the strenuously formal has the opposite.

This sort of service is a courteous version of that which is to be experienced in many hotels. The cooking has tendencies in that direction, too. It is elaborate; and most of the dishes would fail in the hands of a lesser chef because of the sheer number of components. But the fellow here has a sure touch and a sound tongue. With one exception the dishes were balanced and well flavoured and possessed a definite edge. The exception was ravioli filled with celeriac and parsley — good to themselves but rather spoiled by a sauce whose syrupy texture overcame the alleged flavour of truffles. Otherwise the cooking was consistently pleasing. Steamed sole is sauced with red caviar and blackish caviar and makes one see the point of what is a persistently over-rated fish. Wild mushrooms are fried with artichoke heart and accompanied by a tomato vinaigrette. Beef fillet is served with a baby turnip, a potato latke and shallot that has been steeped in red wine. Skate comes with a verdant crust of herbs and a red wine sauce. Main courses are served with sideplates of boring vegetables. A sort of brandysnap collar is filled with berries and two sauces, a yellow one from halfway across the dining-room to pour therefrom only a finger of wine. I doubt if the ceremony surrounding dinner at



This kind of cooking is decidedly not in the van of fashion; indeed, it is now getting to be the exception rather than the rule it was five or so years ago. Even when there were numerous chefs essaying this idiom there were not that many that got it so right as Herbert Berger does here.

No need to reiterate that the place is not to my taste, but that prejudice doesn't blind me to the likelihood that devotes of pomp and formality will consider Keats to be a leader in its field. By any standards the cooking is good, and by the standards of "special occasion" restaurants it is outstanding. Peripheral items are notable, too — nice walnut bread, well-confected sweets with coffee. There are no obvious bargains on a sound wine list. With half a bottle of Pouilly and a decent bottle of Bandol, the bill for three was £123. Two will pay about £80.

Heddon Street is a cul-de-sac off Regent's Street. It is associable with

KEATS
★★★★★
3a Downshire Hill, London NW3 (01-435 1450/3544)
Lunch and dinner Tues to Sat. £80.
Major cards.

COPPER CHIMNEY
★★★★★
13 Heddon Street, London W1 (01-439 2004)
Lunch and dinner Mon to Sat. £50.
Major cards.

a poet of a different sort to John Keats, perhaps no poet at all — David Bowie. It was here that Mr Bowie, wearing an all-in-one quilted body stocking, was, 18 years ago, photographed for the cover of his *Ziggy Stardust* record. After that momentous night, Heddon Street slipped back into an obscurity from which the Copper Chimney has failed to deliver it. If restaurants succeeded on cooking alone, the Copper Chimney would be celebrated and Heddon Street with it; but, famously, they aren't. The importance of extra-gastronomic factors is often regrettable. In the case of the Copper Chimney they are regrettable, but understandable.

First, its site is unpromising — Heddon Street does not attract Bowie fans the way Abbey Road attracts Beatles fans; there is no casual trade, not that it is the sort of restaurant which would rely on casual trade. Second, it is windowless, large and curiously dispiriting. Third, the service is offhand to the point of insolence: without speaking, the manager gestured that we should sit down to the bar area; he then sloped off and shrugged when I called after him asking for a drink. He has clearly chosen a staff to his own image. Ten minutes to get a drink despite gesturing, calling to waiters, going over to them and so on. Another 10 minutes while a cocktail operative knocked up two horrors that tasted like liquorice. Then a curt order to get to the table which, like every other table, felt horribly exposed. A modicum of

thought has been expended on applied decoration — grossly enlarged photos from Raj albums, "stooe-effect" pillars; no thought has been expended on the layout of the place. A further protracted wait, this one alleviated by the comedy of the menu: "The *dish* is an eating place typically found on the highways of the Punjab and favoured by burly truck drivers."

Now, I may not know much about burly truck drivers in the Punjab, but I'm pretty certain that at their truckstops they don't get cooking of the standard of the Copper Chimney. On the other hand, they probably get what they order rather more quickly. Two hours over a two-course meal is an hour and a bit too long, even if the food is good. From the truckstop part of the menu came a biscuit-like savoury with chutney and shredded wheat. Fine, but you get the same in any suburban vegetarian cafe for a quarter of the price. The other dishes would not be found in any cafe, and only a very few other restaurants could match the standard of this place's chilli-infused fish bouillon or its tandoori fish or a creamy, musky, deep-flavoured dal of black beans. The vindaloo here is certainly a throat ripper, but it probably bears more resemblance to the Goanese vinegar-powered original than most you'll find. There's also a tasty stew of okra and chickpeas, which elevates the former veg to unusual heights. With two lagers, two lassis and oo tip, the bill for two was £45.10.

DIRECTORY

Stars — up to a maximum of 10 — are for cooking rather than swags and chandeliers. Prices are for a three-course meal for two. They include an aperitif and modest wine in the case of French places, tea in the case of oriental ones and so on. Prices change; they usually go up. Dishes also may have changed — they are given only as an indication of the establishment's repertoire. I accept no responsibility for disappointments and claim no credit for happy surprises. Always phone first. J.M.

GREAT PORTLAND STREET

Cheer Nico
35 Great Portland Street, London W1 (01-436 8946)
★★★★★
Nico Lader's is a most elegant restaurant in the setting for what may be his finest cooking yet. The invention is manifest, the execution is flawless, the taste is sure. The conviction is total. Every dish is composed of numerous complementary flavours, generally served in an altogether splendid. Duck confit with cap sauce and two kinds of potato; tournedos Rossini with a cake of celeriac that has been cooked with smoked pork to enhance its flavour; mulet with a tender vinaigrette; lamb with succulent; fantastical sweets in blinding colours. The wines are pricey and predictable. A great restaurant and one which leads as well as delights. £120.

Ninjab
244 Great Portland Street, London W1 (01-588 4657)
★★★★★
Japanese businessman's basement eat, whose cooking hits some real heights. Beef and potato stew, deliciously light dumplings, minced shrewd chicken. £20.

AMERICAN

Ed's Easy Diner
16 High Street, Hampstead, London NW3 (01-431 1958)
★★★
The phone number gets it right. This is a pastiche of anywhere America in 1958 seen through the eyes of a video maker or ad director — chrome, plastic and Elvis. The burgers and milkshakes are all right, but no doubt, it is the feel rather than the food that is of moment. Ideal for 40-year-olds rearing their fantasy childhood. £20. There are also branches in Old Compton Street, W1 and King's Road, SW3.

Sticky Fingers
Troy Court, Phillimore Gardens, London W8 (01-938 5338)
★★★★★
Bill Wyman's restaurant is a shrine to himself and to the rest of the Rolling Stones — photos, news clippings, gold discs, guitars; there's nothing that can't be put in a frame. It's a loud and pretty frantic place: part burger joint, part spare-ribs-diner, part Cajun shack. By the standards of such gastronomic subcultures it's not too bad at all. £40 plus.

Columbus
8 Egerton Gardens Mews, London SW3 (01-583 8267)
★★★★★
Savory, adobe-like basement serving rather questionable Californian dishes (chicken, tandoori pizza, porridge, lasagna, pasta with black bean sauce) and one or two good French ones such as steak with onions and lamb rack. £25-26.

Kenny's
170 Heath Street, London NW3 (01-435 6972)
★★★★★
Cajun restaurant with loud Cajun music. Good cocktails, good beers, and some good cooking. The ubiquitous baster tastes like corn chips from a packet. The little variety in the spicing, most dishes taste pretty much the same, i.e., hot and aggressive. £20.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE
Flynn's
3 Fountain Street, Nailsworth, (04530 5567)
★★★★★
A pretty unpromising setting — the first floor of a dreary office building in a rather modest town. The place itself is hardly remarkable. But the cooking is freshly thought-out, accomplished and generously portioned. Fish tends to be a bit out of two above the meat: squid with ginger sauce, rabbit with capsicums and peppers, monkfish with a warm vinaigrette. The puddings are quite nice. Loc. £45-50.

BATH

Homewood Park
Hilton Charterhouse, near Bath, Avon (0225 723731)
★★★★★
The friendliest and most comforting of "country house" hotels. The early Victorian building overlooks the Avon valley. The staff is remarkable and the cooking is of real distinction — substantial dishes are given a light touch and the results are totally commendable. Lightly smoked haddock is done with lentils that have been cooked with bacon, lamb is given a beautiful crust and is served with a potato and green gratin so unconvincingly delicious it deserves to be a course on its own, the wines are impressive. £50 lunch, £70 dinner.

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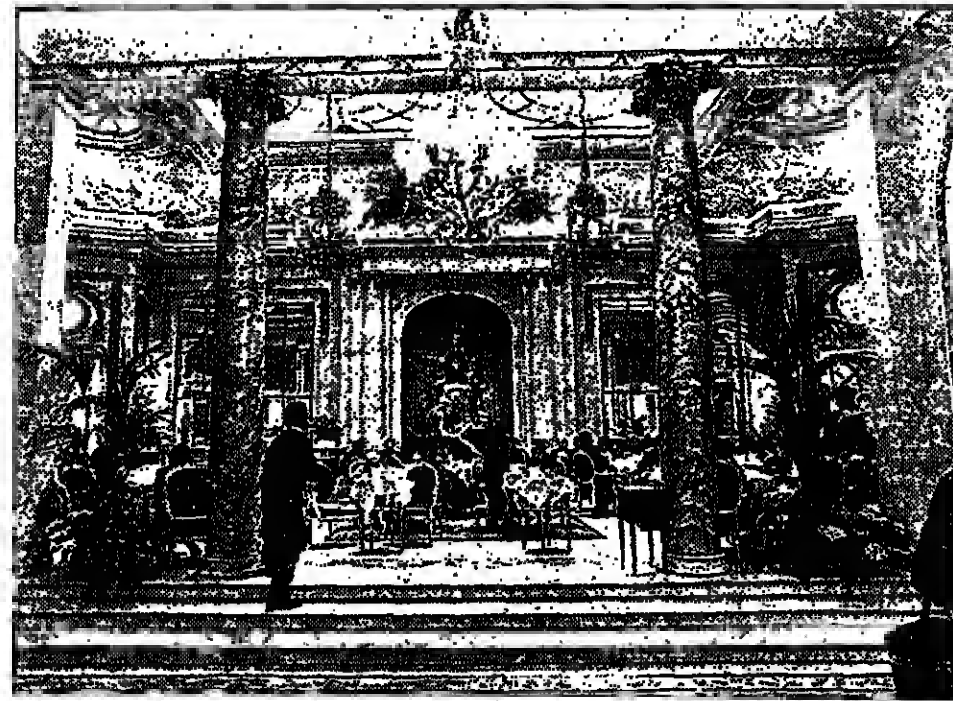
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CAFE SOCIETY

Still putting on the Ritz

Charles Hennessy
takes tea and
much more at the
intoxicatingly
theatrical Ritz



The Ritz: tea here is the last delicious morsel of Edwardian London, according to one historian

If you are offered a diamond as big as the Ritz you would be well advised to specify the Parisian establishment of that name. Its London sister, though perfectly formed, is, as grand hotels go, of comparatively modest size. To César Ritz it was a "small house to which I am proud to see my name attached".

The Ritz, serene but not forbidding on its site overlooking Piccadilly and Green Park, is undeniably ritzy. It is also, among London's great hotels, the most intoxicatingly theatrical in aspect and style, inside and out. Its roof evokes the Napoleonic additions to the Louvre, its arcade is a sort of truncated Rue de Rivoli and its interior is Louis Seize throughout.

Like the Paris Ritz before it, it was designed by a Frenchman from Alsace, Charles Mewès, and a Paris-educated Englishman, Arthur Davis. Both were products of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, the most influential architectural school of the time. But this formal, complex and beautifully organized building was also revolutionary. Its steel frame construction — clad with Norwegian granite on the ground floor, Portland stone above — was an American invention and was the first of its kind in London.

Walk into the Ritz today and you are excited to go to the Ritz," said Lord Fawcett, who made a habit of it and you are confronted — just as you would have been in 1906, when it opened its doors — by a series of interiors as unified in design as any by Robert Adam or the masters of art nouveau.

It is best approached by the Arlington Street entrance. From here you walk parallel to Piccadilly, past the Winter Garden (now known as the Palm Court) with its extravagantly-sculpted fountain in

Echillon marble, panelled mirrors, glass roof and gracefully drooping fronds, among which nestle groups of gilded chairs (Louis XVI, of course, designed by Mewès and Davis and executed by Waring & Galloway). This is where you take tea.

You proceed in stately fashion down the long corridor to the restaurant, which is the climax of the whole building and offers a greater richness of material than elsewhere. Melting polychromatic marbles with poetic names: Brèche d'Alep, Rosé de Norvège and Vert de Suède. Sumptuous chandeliers linked to each other around the room by a chain of bronze garlands, so that the whole place seems to be permanently *en fête*. A *prompe-toeil* ceiling, blue sky and pink-tinted clouds. Over the lot presides Neptune and his Nereid.

After the First World War, with competition from new night-clubs, the Ritz lost its place as the hub of night-time London, but at tea-time it reigned supreme. Barbara Cartland recalls that the Palm Court was "the place for tea. The cakes at Gunters were better, but the Ritz was smarter and grander." Tea-takers today might care to note that "the best spot was just by the balustrade in those

high chairs looking on to the vestibule". If you want to corner it, you could have a quiet word with the genial Michael Twomey, 40 years at the Ritz and master of ceremonies at this daily rite.

Helen Simpson, in her *Ritz Book of Afternoon Tea*, describes tea here as "the last delicious morsel of Edwardian London". The light is kind, she writes, the cakes frivolous and the tempo calm, confident, leisurely. The chairs are rose-coloured, the tables marble, the china blue and white, the tea Darjeeling or Earl Grey. De-crusted moist finger sandwiches filled with little fishy or eggysome things are followed by scones (baked that afternoon) with Devonshire cream and jam and then "airy and Frenchified cakes and pastries".

This is one of the few places (our historian notes), apart from church or Royal garden parties, where a woman may wear a hat and feel entirely at ease. When I was there the other day the women weren't wearing hats — but they looked as if they were.

You can't have more of people in the Ritz, so these days there are two sittings, at 3pm and 4pm, and you have to book. You pay £11.50 a head, hatted or not.

If you care to linger after tea

you could have a glass of champagne at the adjacent bar that, perhaps because it straddles the central corridor, is much more animated than the usual fusty hotel bar. And if you want to linger after *that*, you can dine in the restaurant looking out on the Ritz garden and the park. Diners once included Noel Coward (who composed a number called "Children of the Ritz") and Nancy Mitford and John Betjeman and all the Sitwells and Cecil Beaton and Evelyn Waugh.

If you dine on Friday or Saturday you can dance afterwards, until 1am, to the music of a big band, in that very same Palm Court. And if you choose the right night, the band will be none other than Vile Bodies, led by swinging Humphrey Carpenter, the distinguished biographer of C. S. Lewis. W. H. Auden and Evelyn Waugh.

Waugh particularly admired the way the Ritz cloakroom attendant, without benefit of numbered tickets, handed him his own hat. One day, when the man was not around, Waugh (comfortable by then in his country squire persona) served himself. On the brink of his hat he found a small card bearing the single word "Florida". They have a way with them at the Ritz.

01-379 5555

THE TIMES COOK

Frances Bissell uses the invigorating flavours of dandelions and nettles to prepare cleansing tonics that will spring you into the next season

Taste of the wild side

Until relatively recently, early spring was always seen as a time not only for giving the house a thorough spring-clean, but for giving the body a spring-clean, too. Tonics for the hair, the skin, the blood and the digestive system were made up in the still room or the kitchen to be consumed by the members of the household with varying degrees of effectiveness. No wonder such potions were considered necessary. As well as the bland Lenten diet, there was very little variety or availability of fresh foods, and the only fish and meat available had quite likely been heavily salted to preserve it. We need no such tonics today, with the richly varied diet of fresh meat and fish, abundance of vitamin-rich fruit and vegetables for eating raw or cooked, not to mention all the exotic pulses, pastas, cereals, herbs and spices that are available to us. Still, we like to eat heavier, more comforting food in winter, and probably far more meat and fat than we need. For today's recipes, I have taken some of those tonic ideas and used them in ways we can enjoy now.

A country walk might yield some young dandelion leaves and nettles. Both of these have a marvellously invigorating flavour, with a real taste of the wild. Pick well away from roadsides, however, to ensure that your booty has not been drenched in petrol fumes.

If you decide on nettles, pick only the tender top-most shoot and leaves. The coarse lower leaves and the stalk contain toxins. Use gloves to avoid being stung, but if you do inadvertently get caught, remember that rubbing with a dock leaf is an antidote, and these usually grow nearby. Rubbing with sage or rosemary leaves is also said to relieve nettle rash. As well as nettle soup, I have come across other recipes for this essentially rustic ingredient. In Burgundy, snails are served with a rich green nettle ragout by one of the region's top chefs. In Liguria, a light ravioli is stuffed with a purée of nettles mixed with ricotta and pine nuts.

I have included a pasta recipe today, a rather special dish suitable for the main course of a dinner party that carnivores and vegetarians alike will enjoy. If you are cooking it for vegetarians, you will need to take care with the cheeses you use and look for those containing vegetarian rennet rather than the usual rennet derived from animal sources. Traditional cheese-making on farms in Britain has produced a wealth of excellent and interesting

cheeses, many of them suitable for vegetarians. Ewes' cheese and goats' cheese, as well as cows' milk cheese, are available in a range of textures and fat contents — low, medium and full-fat, pressed and unpressed, cheeses, hard, semi-hard and soft, many of them made with vegetarian rennet. The best guide to help you track down these very special cheeses is a booklet called "On-Farm Cheese Makers of England and Wales". It is available from Alistair Jackson, Specialist Markets Department, MMB, Thames Dutton, Surrey KT17 0EL. Enclose a cheque for £7.50 made payable to Milk Marketing Board. This 80-page guide also includes details of mail-order and farm shops, as well as a section on handling and storing cheese. Readers in Scotland should contact the Scottish Milk Marketing Board, Underwood Road, Paisley, Ayrshire PA3 1TJ.

Back to the theme of spring tonics, rich creamy desserts and hot steamy puddings seem quite out of place. A large bowl of sliced kiwi fruit with a squeeze of fresh orange juice would be a light and refreshing finish to an early spring meal. If you chill the fruit and prepare it just before serving, it will still be bursting with vitamins. One kiwi fruit contains more than the adult's recommended daily allowance of vitamin C. Once they are soft and ripe, I dislike that slightly opulent, corrupt flavour, so I always use them while they are still firm and tart.

Spring soup
(Serves 4 to 6)
2 leeks, white part only
2 celery stalks
1/2 lb (230g) rhubarb
1 bay leaf
4 cloves
1 1/2 pt (850ml) 1.151 stock
salt
white pepper
pinch of powdered mace
chopped parsley

Note: If you use vegetable stock in this and the following recipe, they make dishes that vegetarians will enjoy.

Trim the outer leaves from the leeks, and slice them with the celery and rhubarb. Rinse thoroughly and drain. Put them in a saucepan with the bay leaf, cloves and stock. Bring to the boil, and then process, blend or rub through



a sieve into a clean saucepan. Bring back to the boil, season to taste, and pour into soup bowls. Sprinkle with parsley and serve. To make a more substantial soup add a potato to the rest of the vegetables. The soup can be enriched by stirring in cream before serving, but that rather defeats the purpose of the sharp cleansing flavour of the rhubarb.

Nettle and barley soup
(Serves 6 to 8)
1 1/2 pt (850ml) 1.151 stock
2oz (60g) pearl barley
sprig of sage
1 bay leaf
3oz (85g) fresh young nettle tops
salt
pepper

Bring the stock to the boil, and throw in the barley and herbs. Lower the heat, and simmer until the barley is tender. Remove the herbs. Roughly chop the nettles, and put in the pot. Bring to the boil, simmer for two to three minutes, season to taste, and serve immediately.

3oz (85g) smoked streaky bacon
1/2 lb (230g) fresh young spinach leaves
a few handfuls of fresh young dandelion leaves
2 spring onions or 1tbsp chopped chives
1tbsp sherry vinegar
salt
pepper

Remove the rind, and cut the bacon into matchsticks. Put in a small heavy frying pan, and cook gently until the fat is rendered. Meanwhile, quickly wash the greens, and shake or towel them dry. Tear the spinach into manageable pieces if necessary. Slice the spring onions, and put all the greens in a salad bowl. Raise the heat under the bacon to crisp it off, and pour fat and bacon over the salad, and turn the leaves in it to coat them well. Add sherry vinegar, salt and pepper, and turn the salad again before serving.

Use a cheese containing vegetable rennet to make this lasagna suitable for vegetarians. The sauces can be made the day before required. If it is more convenient, the lasagna can be assembled two to three hours in advance and refrigerated until you are ready to bake it. It is worth making plenty of tomato sauce, as any surplus can be kept for another day.

Vegetable lasagna
(Serves 4 to 6)
Tomato sauce
3 to 4 cloves garlic (optional)
1 onion
2 carrots
2 celery stalks
1 leek, white part only
2oz (60g) fennel, if available
2-3tbsp olive oil
2 large (900g) cans peeled plum tomatoes
2 bay leaves
2 to 3 parsley stalks
sprig of thyme
sprig of sage or rosemary
salt
pepper

Peel and chop the vegetables, and sweat in the olive oil until the onion is just beginning to colour. Add the tomatoes and herbs, and cook without covering for two to three hours on a very low heat. Allow to cool slightly before blending in a food processor or blender, or simply rub through a sieve. Season to taste.

Béchamel sauce:
2oz (60g) butter
2oz (60g) flour
1 1/2 pt (850ml) boiling milk
salt
pepper
pinch nutmeg

Put the butter in a heavy pan, and melt over a low heat. Stir in the flour until you have a smooth paste. Do not allow the flour to colour. Pour on a little of the milk and stir until smooth, then gradually add the rest, stirring continuously to avoid any lumps forming. When smooth, cook gently for eight to 10 minutes, stirring from time to time. Cool, cover and refrigerate until required.

Lasagna
1lb (450g) aubergines
1 1/2 lb (680g) courgettes
1 1/2 lb (680g) baby leeks
1lb (450g) lasagna
3tbsp olive oil
6oz (170g) mozzarella, diced
6oz (170g) ricotta, diced
3oz (85g) Parmesan or other hard cheese, grated

Slice the aubergines 1/4 in (0.5cm) thick, having removed the stalk end. Slice off the ends of the courgettes, and trim and wash the leeks. Bring a large pan of water to the boil, lightly salted or not, as you prefer, and put in the aubergines first. After two to three minutes, put in the rest of the vegetables with a slotted spoon or similar utensil, put them in a colander, and refresh under cold water to stop them cooking any further. Put to dry on layers of paper towels. Cook the lasagna sheets according to the instructions on the packet, a few sheets at a time, if necessary, in the same saucepan of water in which you cooked the vegetables. If using freshly-made lasagna, that is still soft and supple, cook for two minutes only. Lay the cooked lasagna sheets on a clean tea towel.

Liberally oil a square or rectangular oven-proof dish of dimensions that will comfortably hold all the ingredients. Spread a little béchamel on the bottom, and cover with a layer of lasagna. Spread with tomato sauce, and lay the leeks on top with a little ricotta and mozzarella. Spoon on a little more béchamel, top with another layer of lasagna, and so on, finishing with sheets of lasagna topped with the rest of the béchamel sauce. Sprinkle with the grated cheese, and bake for about 50 to 60 minutes at 180°C/350°F, gas mark 4, turning the heat up for the last 10 minutes, if necessary, to brown the top. Serve very hot.

(© Times Newspapers Ltd 1990)

DRINK

Stacks of sparkle and spring

Is there an alternative to champagne? Jane MacQuitty takes another look at méthode champenoise wines and checks out the best of the bargain buys for March

When is champagne not champagne? When it is Charles de Fère méthode champenoise fizz. I first tasted these wines, produced just outside the official border of the Champagne district, several years ago; the rosé was awful and the brut none too thrilling. Writers, merchants and drinkers have since stepped up their search for good, inexpensive méthode champenoise alternatives to champagne. Rarely are they successful. It is time to look again at the Charles de Fère range.

The rosé is still grim. Its weird, cheesy-beefy scent and taste are not worth the £3.66 asked by Berkman Wine Cellars, 12 Brewery Road, London N7. Supermarkets' own-label pink champagnes may cost £10 a bottle and the cheapest grandes marques are £14 plus, but half-price rosé alternatives need to have at least half the finesse and flavour of the real thing, and this one fails miserably. However, the Charles de Fère Blanc de Blancs Brut Réserve (£5.54) is a useful upper-class sparkler with some breeding and style. Its light, fresh, flowery-musky scent and taste do not make it champagne, though. It reminded me of one of the better quality Blanquette de Limoux sparklers, which is logical as its chief component is Roussillon and Limoux's Mauzac grape.

The jewel in the crown of Jean-Louis Denois, who de-camped to Fère-en-Tardenois to make non-champagne sparklers in 1979 and whose family still produces champagne, is his amazing Tradition Brut. I would not like to meet this bubbly's rich, biscuity, champagne-like scent and equally full, bouncy palate in a blind tasting; it smells and tastes like the real thing, partly because of its mix of Chardonnay and Pinot Noir grapes, but also because of Denois's expertise. This is one of the finest champagne taste-alikes I have come across, and at £6.54 is about a third of the price of the cheapest own-label champagnes.

March, despite its occasional warm, sunny days, is still traditionally a red wine month, and there is plenty to choose from. One of the most useful trade tastings recently was the French wine co-operatives' tasting. These wines have improved over the past five years. And those from the Cave du Haut Poitou, a southern Loire satellite, are a shining example of new techniques and squeaky-clean wine-making methods. Haut Poitou's Sancerre-like Sauvignon and delicate Chardonnay are well-known but I had not tasted the Gamay before. The '89 vintage of this wine is a stunner. I

March, despite its occasional warm, sunny days, is still traditionally a red wine month

loved its brilliant, deep carmine colour, backed up by a musky-grassy scent and lashings of ripe, peppery Gamay fruit on the palate. Don't expect any of the warmer, bubblegum-like Gamay fruit of Beaujolais as you will be disappointed, but at £2.99 from Waitrose it is a good March buy.

Mondavi's '88 Woodbridge Sauvignon Blanc (£4.99) from California's Central Valley, whose exotic, tropical fruit scent and soft, grassy taste do not make a great Sauvignon, but a good one.

A non-vintage generic Médoc, which Majestic prices at just £2.99, is much better value. This wine comes from the Caves et Entrepôts de Malecot, as does Majestic's toothsome, non-vintage red table wine, Malecot, on sale for £2.35. I enjoyed this pleasant, light, easy-drinking elixir with its musky, grassy-blackcurrant Cabernet fruit. Look out, too, for Majestic's discounted bin-end bottles, about 100 wines including bargains such as '88 Rothbury Semillon for £3.99 (instead of £4.39). March does not have to be austere and penny-pinching, however, and if you are feeling flush make certain you sizzle up some of Waitrose's superb '84 Sarget de Gruaud Larose claret, which has a rich, mature, cedary St Julien flavour with a dash of chocolate and cinnamon in the mix. A good ready-to-drink example of the quality a leading St Julien property can achieve in a poor year, this wine is good value at £8.75.

Oddbins is also worth visiting this month. It has specialised in Australian wines for the past five years, and the latest offerings include a small parcel of bin-ends that are worth plundering. The cheaper wines are likely to have gone by now, but home in on Simon Whitlam's delicious '87 Cabernet Sauvignon. This Hunter Valley winery was founded in 1982 by wine merchant Andrew Simon and banker Nicholas Whitlam. Simon Whitlam's labels, in this case a grey and dusky pink triangle, are usually hard to take, but the wine within never is. I loved this Cabernet's elegant, cassis and spicy oak character, as distinguished and restrained as all the other Simon Whitlam wines, which explains why they stand out from the rest of the New South



Wales pack. Forget your bank balance and splash out on this bottle (£8.99).

Apart from Australian bin-ends, Oddbins is this month concentrating on the regional wines of France with a free tasting of half a dozen of these wines on March 17 and 24. Good bottles include the impressive, velvety, oriental spice of the '87 Mas de Daumas Gassac (£8.99) which I wrote about recently, plus the splendid '88 Château Bellevue La Forêt Côtes du Frontonnais in its 'prestige' bottling (£5.99). The prestige version of this red wine is aged in oak, and it shows. I enjoyed its wonderful, deep, rich, exotic, spicy-herbaceous style enfolded in lots of rich, ripe southern French fruit. Besides claiming your tasting sample of these two, try the excellent

new vintage of Oddbins's '89 Domaine de Saint-Lannes, a Vin de Pays des Côtes de Gascogne (£2.99) with exhilarating, crisp, zesty, flowery-lemmony fruit that make it a good all-purpose March white wine.

With warmer days hopefully ahead, think about laying in stocks of good, ordinary white wines to start the spring. Sainsbury is worth visiting this month to purchase several bottles of its fresh, crisp, apple, own-label, non-vintage Alsace Pinot Blanc. This wine comes from the Bannwilsh co-operative and its 13 per cent alcohol and good, clean bite and fruit make it a sound March purchase (£3.15), or take advantage of the multi-buy scheme that gives you a £1 discount if you buy three bottles.

WINE BUYS

© 1988 Cooks Hawkes Bay Chardonnay, Thresher, £4.99. New Zealand Chardonnay occasionally gets overlooked by wine drinkers, who rave about this country's Sauvignon but tend to forget its other wines. Cooks has always had a good Chardonnay in its range, and this buttercup-gold, big, buttery wine has lots of spicy new oak on the palate. © 1987 Château de Pape, Celler des Princes, Thresher, £5.99. This classy Châteaufort is on promotion this month at

Thresher along with the Cooks Chardonnay. This pale, garnet red wine has a fine, warm, spicy style, with enough fruit on the palate to make it a very enjoyable mouthful. © 1986 Saint-Joseph, Cave de Saint-Désir, Waitrose, £5.45. Waitrose has always offered some good red wines from the Rhône and this is no exception. A gold medal-winner at Mâcon and rightly so, the robust, rich, chunky black-pepper spice and fruit of this wine is a delight.

FOOD

Robin Young tries the convenient approach to vegetarianism

There was a time when vegetarians were regarded as more difficult dinner guests than even, say, bookmakers, estate agents or vicars. Hostesses exchanged tales of their efforts at entertaining vegetarians as if they were somehow akin to slipping the neighbours' Rottweiler tibbits through the fence; families recoiled in horror when told that a prospective son or daughter-in-law had abjured the pleasures of the flesh; and the vegetarians themselves grew tired of saying "No, really, cook what you would normally have yourselves and give us the vegetables".

It has all changed. We are all vegetarians now — or can be if we wish.

I have just completed three weeks' worth of eating a vegetarian diet, and I have not strained my culinary ingenuity once. In fact, I have not really cooked anything; merely microwaved or heated it in an oven, following instructions on the packets.

Vegetarians, I admit, could be tricky — but vegetarians? No problem.

There are now reckoned to be at least 1.5 million people in Britain who eat no meat. The number is growing, though no one is sure how fast. The militant Vegetarian Society has doubled its membership (to 16,000) in the past four years, but they are only the publicly demonstrative tip of an iceberg.

In surveys, as many as one in three people says they are now aiming to eat less meat. The evidence suggests that about three million of them are actually managing it. Six per cent of the population is expected to become vegetarians in the next few years.

That, though, is not really the point. Vegetarian food is available for all — and appreciated at some time or other by almost everybody. During the wartime rationing of my childhood, my most eagerly awaited savoury treat was a nut cutlet — my equivalent of the present day hamburger.

Cranks, the leading name in vegetarian wholefood for nearly 30 years, has recently opened a take-away in the Broadgate development near Liverpool Street in the heartland of the City of London. It reckons that here, as in its other branches, more than 90 per cent of the customers are not, so to speak, full-blooded vegetarians. Vegetarian food manufacturers such as Granose and the health food

Meaty without the flesh

shops tell the same story: at least three quarters of the people buying vegetarian products are not fully conforming vegetarians.

Such statistics have influenced the supermarkets. Where vegetarians were inconvenient, now there are chiller cabinets full of convenience foods prepared with them in mind.

How varied and tempting those convenience foods are, though, depends which supermarket you shop in. For my tests the Co-op could only come up with five vegetarian items (quiches, pizzas and pasties — none of which I relished), though more vegetarian dishes are being introduced this month and next. Asda produced an unexciting cauliflower *au gratin*, a moderate vegetable curry, and a passable vegetable eury and Indian pilau rice, about the standard (and price) of my local Indian take-away. Vegetable lasagne, strangely, was declared "not suitable".

The other back-markers were Safeway, who could only offer a basic vegetarian repertoire of cauliflower cheese, vegetable lasagne, vegetable chilli and *ratatouille*. The cheese was imperceptible, the lasagne gross, the chilli heavy on red kidney beans, and the *ratatouille* seriously distasteful. Beware the *ratatouille*, whose principal ingredient, listed first in the fine print, is water, which should only be there as a component of the vegetables. It means excessive reliance on puree and thickener, and the result is not at all nice.

Tesco runs to 11 vegetarian recipe dishes, with broccoli mornay as a variant on the almost inevitable cauliflower cheese. I tried the vegetable chilli (much like the others already mentioned), a carrot and onion crumble with crumbed cheese and almond topping (rather dry and drab) and a couple of passable vegetable bakes. Best, though, were onion bhajias and vegetable samosas bought from the delicatessen counter. Sainsbury had a score of

ideas. Its vegetable chilli with cracked wheat contained more tomatoes than red kidney beans and (at £1.39 for 350g to serve one) was the most civilized version of this dish that I tried. The *ratatouille* replaced water with tomato juice, to small advantage. I quite liked the vegetable moussaka and, if pressed, would not balk at passing friends a plate of Sainsbury's crispy crumbed mushrooms with garlic dip — at least not if there was plenty of wine about.

I was seriously disappointed, though, by Sainsbury's neeps and tatties, which was supposed to be a traditional Scottish dish topped with grated cheese. I wondered afterwards whether the cheese had been the whitish splotch adhering to the lid when I discarded it. Sainsbury's onion bhajia also proved large, floury and uninteresting.

The range at Marks & Spencer runs to at least 15 recipe dishes and an almost equal number of vegetarian snacks. Filled courgettes with tomato sauce were the most likely products I encountered to convince vegetarians I had been cooking specially for them. St Michael tends to blandness: the nut cutlets, sadly, are largely potato and rice, the only nut mentioned in the ingredients being almond. Similarly, I would have welcomed twice the amount of herbs in the vegetarian dumplings accompanying an otherwise good fresh vegetable casserole. Most successful were the vegetable crispbakes which I have bought since (dare I say it?) to set beside lamb cutlets.

Finally, though, my recommendation is that would-be vegetarians should visit Waitrose. I object strongly to the misleading name of the tagliatelle niccioise (no capers or anchovies, but creamy cheese sauce yet again) but it tasted all right. I also commend the neatly packed and well filled vegetable samosas, and enjoyed the vegetable shepherd's pie.

More importantly, Waitrose vegetable curry with pilau rice, and dal makhani and palak paner which I coupled, rather unorthodoxly, with Thai-style lemon and lime rice provided my two tastiest and most memorable meals of the vegetarian experiment. If all vegetarian meals were as good, all God's creatures would be safe from me.

Clive Davis on vulgar sounds from a great man's mouth

I do not suppose that Albert Goldman was ever planning to write Miles Davis's biography. If by any remote chance he was, then he might as well forget it: Davis has done the job more thoroughly than any literary mugger could have managed. As self-inflicted wounds go, his autobiography is a masterpiece. My only suggestion is that, given the relentless use of a certain 12-letter word, the title should have been *Miles: The M-word*.

On second thoughts, perhaps the book is some sort of grand hoax. Davis has always had a keen eye for the latest trends. Perhaps he realized that there is a huge audience for books that dwell on the sordid details of an artist's private life. If sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll are the most potent brew, jazz, cocaine, and more cocaine cannot be far behind.

As it happens, two of the most memorable jazz memoirs — Charles Mingus's *Beneath the Underdog* and Art and Laurie Pepper's *Straight Life* — both gave an unsavoury glimpse into the world of the modern jazz musician. Neither Mingus nor Pepper was a particularly cuddly man, but they left behind books which belong to the realms of literature.

Davis should have at least as many tales to tell. Whether or not you care for his recent work, he remains one of the most important figures in post-war jazz. In at the birth of bebop in the Forties, he re-emerged as the epitome of laid-back sophistication a decade later, before leading jazz, far better or worse, into its flirtation with the big money of rock music. While most jazz artists have burnt themselves out within a matter of years, he has been astute enough to move into new directions whenever he sensed staleness setting in.

Jarring jazz notes

MILES
The Autobiography
By Miles Davis
With Quincy Troupe
Macmillan, £13.95

Despite all this, *Miles* turns out to be a dreary read. No doubt some parts will appeal to the hipsters who enjoyed leafing through the more lurid sections of the Warhol diaries. But I suspect even they will be bored after a while. Anyone interested in finding out more about Davis's music would do better to sit down with one or two of his best albums — say, "Kind of Blue" and "In a Silent Way" — and a copy of Ian Carr's "critical biography", published in 1982. Carr's book is based on secondary sources, it needs up-dating, and it is certainly over-reverential at times, but it is still far more eloquent than anything Davis has to offer.

The main problem with *Miles* is that it comes straight from the great man's mouth. Quincy Troupe, a New York poet and jazz journalist, may be credited as co-author, but his role seems to have been confined to changing the batteries in the tape recorder. What is left is a rambling and profane monologue, a dispiriting mixture of ego and paranoia. The cool, laconic figure

so beloved of CBS publicity campaigns is nowhere to be seen. Instead Davis uses the opportunity to settle scores with fellow-musicians, critics, ex-wives, and the white world in general.

If the book does have any value it is that it strips away the glamorous myths about the jazz life. The world depicted here is not some idyllic community of high-minded artists, but a collection of disparate, often inadequate individuals hustling to make an uncertain living in a hostile environment. The sections on the casual racism inflicted on black musicians remind us how strong Davis needed to be to survive, let alone make enduring music. In spite of all his denunciations of white America, he embraces its values whenever the price is right. The man who accuses Louis Armstrong of pandering to white prejudice is the same man who boasts about being cast as a dope-dealing pimp in *Miami Vice*. When he hears that Joaquín Rodrigo disliked his version of the *Concierto de Aranjuez*, his sensitive reply is pure Sam Goldwyn: "Let's see if he likes it after he starts getting these big royalty cheques."

If you want to know what Davis was doing during his five-year absence from the music scene from 1975, the answer is that he was ploughing his way through illegal substances and "hitches", otherwise known as women. Today, desperate to win over Prince's young audience, he admits to putting little effort into his albums, simply playing over pre-recorded rhythm tracks. As for his live performances, watching him strutting to the funky beat is like watching Olivier dropping his trousers to *The Betsy*. Ultimately, *Miles: The Autobiography* is very much like the concerts: long, vulgar and monotonous.



One of John Vernon Lord's humorous drawings from a new poetry anthology, *The Song That Sings the Bird* (Collins, £6.95). Ruth Craft has done the collecting, managing successfully to find everything from leg-pulls to the poems that "make you sit still and concentrate". The illustration goes with a Mary Coleridge verse, "The Great Rain is Over", from a section called *A Touch of Weather*.

Common campus ground

Now is the time when the UCCA forms exert their seasonal influence. Youthful persons are to be found making zig-zag journeys, anywhere between Exeter and Aberdeen, in quest of hspitable quarters for the coming autumn. What will they make of *Going Up* as an introductory handbook to their academic future?

The story, such as it is, concerns Tim (from a village shop) and Sue (an estate-agent's daughter) and their covering paths during their first year at the University of Blank-o-Sea. By putting one of them into digs and the other into a Hall of Residence, Hunt ensures a proper distribution of social educational experiences as gossip, pub-

FOR CHILDREN
Brian Alderson

GOING UP
By Peter Hunt
Julia MacRae, £8.95

crawling, and awful cooking — with a few forays into laboratories and libraries, and no forays at all into politics or dems.

He fills out the scene with a assortment of more or less affable characters, and, although nothing much happens, there is a consistent liveliness in his local observations and in his taste for backchat which

nicely conveys the air of rather orderly anarchy that goes to make up life at your average English university.

Well — one assumes it does. For although Peter Hunt is an esteemed writer of slightly avant-garde children's novels (working in the benign shadow of William Mayne), he is also a university lecturer. His publisher tells us that he has visited more than 90 colleges around the world and "lectured at more than 40 of them", so he must be in as good a position as anyone to make Tom and Sue authentic models for these who will soon be "going up". Certainly, this quick-witted story is the most approachable of all his books so far.

Pal Snowy

Martin Spence

TINTIN IN THE LAND OF THE SOVIETS
by Hergé
Sundancer, £8.95

When Tintin, saved by Snowy and a sack of salt from turning into an icicle forever, calls his horse Rosinante as they charge together out of a frame in *Tintin in the Land of the Soviets*, his character is born. He is Don Quixote, the born romantic who lives for adventure. Snowy, his fellow traveller, the ultimate realist, who, particularly on the Russian steppes, lives only for a bone.

Congratulations to the publishers for daring at last to publish the very first Tintin adventure (1929) in this country, especially since Tintin is not the dominant character. This is a fluid, embryonic, unformed Tintin, barely concocted by Hergé from the boy scout Tintin.

It's Snowy, a massive cranium dwarfing his body, who dominates the glasnost, bounding breathlessly through the caviare, the secret police and the snow, doing undercover work disguised as a tiger; a Snowy whose first words, "I've been told there are fleas in Russia," establish the communion, if not the Communism, of human life. *Soviets* satirizes the pre-war world. From splendid stereotypes of the aristocratic English fellow-travellers of the period to Chinese torturers and a swarthy Russian revolutionary, each primitive frame flickers with crude energy. Such speed, such surrealism, such irony. Those who can't take it can toddle back to Asterix.

Murderers by th

Victoria Glendinning on the disturbing things convicted murderers reveal about the bad things, and some of the good ones, in their lives

Violence. I was thinking about it the other night. Either you understand it or you don't. If you understand it, you find it hard to explain to somebody who doesn't. . . . The speaker knifed a complete stranger on a street at night. He was 18 at the time, drunk, and in a rage with his father.

Several of the men in this book killed strangers, for shockingly trivial reasons; victims are often stand-ins for whoever is the real object of hatred, grief, or anger. These murderers are not mad, though most murders seem irrational, and the perpetrators cannot explain why they did it. They repeatedly use the words "unfortunate" and "unfortunately", in a stiff, puzzled way, as in, "unfortunately I then ended her life by smothering her with a pillow".

That man was speaking of his own daughter. The stories told by the child-murderers are dreadful. Appalling answers are elicited by Parker's no doubt appalling questions. The man who tells the most dreadful story of all, about the way he killed his 18-month-old son, was "totally emotionally dead" for the first four years of his sentence, but is now tortured by remorse. So he damn well should be, you will say. But listening to him, you can't take the easy way out, and dismiss such men as

LIFE AFTER LIFE:
INTERVIEWS WITH
TWELVE MURDERERS
By Tony Parker
Secker & Warburg, £14.95

inhuman — though some avoid mental torment by continuing to block out all feeling: "You don't remember. Your mind won't let you; it can't. Never."

Parker's questions probe their childhoods, but a good many of the murderers can tell him almost nothing. "My early life I only remember bits and pieces about", or "I can't think of anything much in the way of childhood memories at all." Sometimes continued probing elicits memories of grim misery and devastating betrayal by adults, or a milieu in which petty crime was a way of life, a career option. But a vagueness about the past, plus an absence of any strong network of friends and family, a lack of marketable skills, and a lack of roots in any one place, seem to be common factors. I suppose the capsule word for this is "alienation". When you have no history, the taboo against terminating the history of another person is more easily broken.

If Tony Parker has a thesis of his own, he's not telling. As always, he presents the interviews as monologues, with his questions edited out. His only interventions are short descriptive passages about appearance or mannerisms. So you have to make your own mind up about these murderers — which means coming to grips with yourself, in uncomfortable ways. His introduction explains how imprisonment for life is the only sentence the law allows for murder, though lifers can be let out on licence at any stage, and recalled to prison if they misbehave. Out on licence, they must report regularly to their probation officers.

We are not told on what principle Parker selected his interviewees, so there is no way of knowing whether their attitudes are typical. But each one speaks of his or her probation officer with respect, sometimes with affection. As a woman who had done 30 years for killing a woman friend says, prison and probation seem at cross-

purposes. "Prison officers try to destroy your individuality so they can manage you in a mass better", and when you come out no licence "your probation officer tries to build up your individuality so you can act like a person again". It would be a good idea, she says, "if they got together and decided which it was they wanted to be done with you".

Lifers are moved around from prison to prison, and are not always sure in what part of the country they are. One man finds it easier to be inside than out on licence, having become fearful of the world, and commits offences in order to get recalled. Yet the same man, weeping, tells what prison does — "eating you away inch by inch, depriving you of more and more of what's left of your personality and feelings. . . ."

What is saving him, as it saves others, is the prison education programme. This is something you have to "apply to be considered for". It should be automatic, for all long-term prisoners. None of these murderers did any good at school. They come in ignorant, unqualified, and believing themselves to be thick. Reading these people's life-stories would convince anyone who needed convincing that a massive national commitment to introduce not just adequacy but excellence

into state education would reduce both the crime rate and the number of people who grow up frustrated and ill-equipped.

The angry man who stabbed the stranger in the street now has five O levels and two A levels and is going out on licence to a polytechnic. A 20-stone bully who had been a professional fighter, party to a murder that left the victim stabbed 30 times, was sent in prison a copy of the *Four Quartets*. He felt it was written for him. Eliot was his lifeline into humanity. This sounds so unlikely as to be funny, but it's true.

Where education has not done the trick, love has. It comes in strange guises. The oldest lifer in England, a woman who has been violently aggressive all her life, lives — peacefully — for her Alsatian bitch. (It scared Parker out of his wits.) Another female murderer and former prostitute is a born-again Christian, hoping to work with women in prison to prevent them wasting their lives when they come out. One prostitute stabbed a Dutch sailor to death for the sake of a taxi fare. Discovering in prison that she preferred the "calm and sensible" love of another woman, she plans to set up house with her. A casual labourer who hanged a stranger to death with a starting-handle is now living in insightful bliss with Jennifer — who, it transpires, is a prison psychologist 20 years older than himself.

These are the happier stories. Less happy, because more recognizable, is the attitude of the jaunty young man who killed his grandfather with a pair of scissors. He and his mother never mention it. "To tell the truth I never give it much thought and I shouldn't think she does either." He speaks as if the bad things never happened, or happened to someone else. It's how everyone tends to deal with the bad things they have done, even when they have not, yet, committed murder.



Whose fault was the Dieppe raid?

The Dieppe Raid is as deeply etched in Canadian military mythology as Vimy Ridge but for opposite reasons. Vimy was, by First World War standards, a costly but undoubted victory. Dieppe was a courageous disaster. Out of the 5,000 Canadians embarked, 2,700 did not return. It is hardly surprising that each new generation of Canadian historians should seek "the reason why".

Brian Loring Villa spent eight years researching this, his first book, and gives credit to his two Harvard mentors, William Langer and Ernest May. Some of his reconstructions of events, however, show more imagination than knowledge of the workings of Whitehall.

Villa accepts the two generally acknowledged tactical reasons for the defeat: the cancellation of the preliminary air bombardment, and inadequate naval fire support, caused by the Admiralty's refusal to risk capital ships in the Channel after the loss of Prince of Wales and Repulse. He also agrees the German records show that surprise was not lost, as is so often claimed, by the six-week postponement of the raid. His case is that it should never have been mounted in the first place, because it was tactically unsound, and that his researches show its mounting by Mountbatten was never authorized.

His analysis of the political pressures in 1942 that led to the raid is well done. Churchill and the War Cabinet were being hammered by the combined Soviet and "Second Front Now" lobbies, on the anvil of Washington's premature determination to mount a major cross-Channel assault in 1942. Dieppe partially assuaged these pressures, but it was also a logical part of the British strategy of coastal raiding in 1942.

His pen pictures of the principal actors and their motives are credible, except when he comes to Mountbatten and Admiral John Hughes-Hallett, who planned the raid. They are both cast as villains

By William Jackson

UNAUTHORISED
ACTION
Mountbatten and the
Dieppe Raid, 1942
By Brian Loring Villa
Collins, £15

and so they wanted to carve a leading role for Canada in establishing the Second Front. Dieppe provided a stepping-stone.

Thus there was general acceptance of the Dieppe plan, which was endorsed by the British and Canadian Governments; but Villa goes to great lengths to show that the Chiefs of Staff never, in fact, endorsed it after its six-week postponement due to bad weather. He contends that Mountbatten ordered its resumption without authority, in pursuit of his personal ambition to become the Supreme Allied Commander for the future invasion of Europe.

Those who have doubts over Mountbatten may find Villa's conclusions credible, but other readers, who know a little more about the workings of Whitehall, will see them as academic hogwash. Even though no written endorsement of the raid has been found in the Chiefs of Staff minutes, it is really conceivable that the Canadian commanders would have allowed their troops to be re-embarked for the largest amphibious raid ever carried out without their Government's consent?

Transl night

POETRY

Robert Nye

BIG NOISES, SMALL ROOMS:
The Poetry of War 1914-1989

Edited by Simon Fuller
BBC/Longman, £3.50

SHORT AFTERNOONS
By Kit Wright
Hutchinson, £6.95

SEVEN WINTERS IN PARIS
By Thomas McCarthy
Anvil Press, £4.95

only sensible in view of the fact that civilians have been in the front line at least since Guernica. Publication of the volume coincides with the

Dealing in bl

FICTION

Dinah Birch

A DRY WHITE SEASON
By Andre Brink
Fleming, £3.99

ALL ONE HORSE
By Breyten Breytenbach
Faber, £14.99

school, he embarks on a relentless search for justice which transforms his understanding of the world. Ben's dogged commitment destroys him and many around him. But his journey of discovery is seen as an uncompromising assertion of human stature, and his death becomes a secular martyrdom.

Andre Brink's writing is built on conviction. His characters move in a world of absolutes: goodness and truth with cruelty and greed, and the reader is never left in any doubt as to which is which. Oddly

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By Michael De-la-Noy
Collins, £12.99

The authors of these two volumes — which concern the same subject: the last Archbishop of Canterbury but one — could hardly be more different, so that the volumes themselves are utterly different.

Michael De-la-Noy was press secretary to Michael Ramsey from 1967 to 1970. But the term "press secretary" inadequately describes the relationship he had with the archbishop and his wife, who were childless; sometimes, De-la-Noy was treated more as a son than as a secretary, until the abrupt end of his time in the archbishop's employ.

De-la-Noy will have known that the "life" of the Archbishop, by no less a person than the Revd Dr Owen Chadwick OM, Regius Emeritus Professor of Modern History at Cambridge, was soon to appear, and that he would be well advised to call his volume not a "life" but a "portrait", and had better look sharp (in more senses than one) and get it out before Chadwick's "life" appeared. More than half De-la-Noy's "portrait" is biography of Ramsey before he knew him, when, understandably, it swings more to personal reminiscence. Alas, the pressure to publish has produced a book bespattered with mistakes and misprints.

But the essential difference between the two volumes lies elsewhere. When Archbishop Randall Davidson, before he died, gave his successor, Cosmo Gordon Lang, his blessing, he twice repeated: "God give you judgement". Clearly he believed that to be the gift above all others with which an archbishop needed to be endowed. It may be maintained that if an archbishop's staff are to assist him, they too will need the gift of judgement — and no less after his death (Michael Ramsey's widow, Joan, thankfully, is still alive) — in how they share their privileged experience. It will not do simply to proclaim upon the house-top what was spoken in the ear in closets. Both these volumes are therefore a fascinating study in judgement: not just the arch-

bishop's, but that of each author. They both skilfully describe Ramsey's strange childhood, his schooldays, his days at Cambridge, and the ensuing tragedy of his mother's death, necessitating a period of psychoanalysis for the future archbishop. Chadwick inevitably outshines De-la-Noy on what the latter calls "The Making of a Theologian": Ramsey's days at Lincoln Theological College, as professor at Durham and Cambridge, and as author of major theological works. In describing Ramsey's decision concerning the bishopric of Durham, leading swiftly to the archbishopric of York, Chadwick is also superb. Well over half Chadwick's pages are devoted to Ramsey as Archbishop of Canterbury, a mastery account of his response to the world and the church in the Sixties to the homosexual question, abortion, capital punishment, to the race question — at home, in South Africa, in Rhodesia; to the theological ferment of the decade; to the ecumenical situation.

"When the Pope (Paul VI) said goodbye," Chadwick writes, "he gave Ramsey his most generous gift

of all. He slipped off the episcopal ring, with its emeralds and diamonds, and put it in Ramsey's palm, and Ramsey put it on his finger. No Pope could have said anything bolder about that vexing sore over the validity of Anglican Orders." Chadwick leaves you in no doubt that Ramsey was a great archbishop, and, what is more, a man of God, who grew even closer to God in the last quiet years of his life.

But Chadwick, in his discretion and wisdom, omits much that De-la-Noy, in his calculated indiscretion, includes: for instance, the archbishop's neglect, within his own diocese of Canterbury, of his suffragan bishops. "The lack of liaison between Lambeth Palace and the suffragan bishops was at times nothing less than a disgrace," writes De-la-Noy. Chadwick says little of Ramsey's relations with his staff — with, for instance, John Andrew, his chaplain at York and at Canterbury. On the other hand, De-la-Noy writes: "For eight years he served in many ways as the most influential member of Ramsey's household, for he enjoyed the total confidence and affection of the Ramseys and allowed himself to become something of a buffer rather than a stepping-stone between Ramsey and the bishops. This the bishops came to resent." Chadwick mentions De-la-Noy only twice: once to contradict him. De-la-Noy had written: "Ramsey was essentially a lonely and sad man with no close friends apart from his wife." "This is a wrong judgement," Chadwick retorts.

Chadwick may well be right on that point — his judgement is rarely to be faulted; but he would be more convincing had he allowed Ramsey not only his eccentricities but his faults. De-la-Noy is Lambeth with the lid off. Some of the garbage has fallen out of the bin, and some of it has been helped out. (Most human habitations, even episcopal palaces, have their garbage.) Chadwick is Lambeth with the lid on, and screwed down — with such turned and polished screws.



Closer to God than most: Michael Ramsey, one of our great archbishops

In the blockbuster stakes

THRILLERS
Chris Petit

Mambo (Hodder & Stoughton, £12.95) by Campbell Armstrong continues his habit for iffy titles and again features Frank Pagan, copper with a nose for international conspiracy. *Mazurka*, his last, showed that Armstrong's political hunches were ahead of the game: there he anticipated the rise of nationalism in the USSR; here he goes for Cuba, whose downfall is determined by so many sub-plots that one has to conclude that Armstrong is playing for international blockbuster stakes. There's a loony German master terrorist, a shady secret society whose members are mysteriously being bumped off — Agatha Christie-style — from within, workaholic coppers, vulnerable *femmes fatales*, and enough mercenary extras to fill a Hollywood epic. Pagan, wounded in the prelude, has trouble with his stitches, as does the plot, which occasionally threatens to burst at the seams. Intelligence notwithstanding, its climax is disappointingly Hammond Innes-ish, with hero suspended from helicopter and baddy beneath on a bucking ship in a boiling sea; thus only beta plus brackets plus.

In Frank O'Neill's *Roman Circus* (Bantam, £12.95), Italian terrorists, with the inevitable Libyan connection, stir up anti-American feeling by acts of sabotage against US installations on Italian soil, killing innocent locals in the process. Leisurely descriptions of the *dolce vita*, an eye for the detail of intelligence work, and a lived-in feel promise well, but, in spite of a large cast, the story is basically a three-hander, and careful establishing fails to disguise a fetching but implausible fairytale involving beauty and her beasts: CIA agent fights creepy mastermind for the compromised body and soul of his first love — a socialite with reckless habits. Beta plus query plus.

According to interviews, Whitley Streiber has had encounters with aliens from other planets and is tired of the scepticism that greets his claim. *Majestic* (Macdonald, £12.95) fleshes out that old chestnut of a conspiracy by the US Government to suppress knowledge of little green men, with

the US space programme — what Hitchcock used to call the MacGuffin, that which has no intrinsic plot value other than everyone wants it. Characters are slightly above par for the course — baroque cardboard — but it is the lure of the deep that most attracts Terman, who chucks in a lengthy storm at sea, a purple passage that is almost a novella of its own and a more than passable *homage* to the typhoon literature of Conrad and Richard Hughes. Beta plus.

Exchange of Doves (Hodder & Stoughton, £11.95) by Kenneth Royce offers that reheated old international ragout Arabs, a compromised Home Secretary, what once would have been called a dolly bird, maverick Americans, and so much playing of ends against the middle that one loses sight of what's what. Truculent and chippy SAS sergeant, seconded to MI5, wonders just who is trying to rub him out; sorry, reader, can't help. A fondness for the author's television series *Bulman* kept me going, even

though the bits in between inverted commas don't pass for dialogue: "You've overbeen in my hair but that's where I'd like you to be, Sam." Beta minus brackets minus.

The Arms of Death (Bloomsbury, £12.99), after a shaky start in which Mark Wainwright finds his voice, settles down to sullen stuff in Libya where a bunch of rainy Americans, with apparent connections to US intelligence, while away the time teaching Arabs to blow things up; meanwhile, bombs go off around Europe. Here the bits in between inverted commas are superior for the genre, specialities being the trumped insult, use of expletive and a casual racism. Wainwright is good on the absurdities of civilization — Third World supermarkets — and cynical sex, but thin on character: who's who is a problem. An overheated air of existential nihilism suggests that Paul Bowles has been mugged up along the way. This ambitious and promising first novel also makes reference to the studied cruelties of James Bond when, in fact, it owes more to the narrative ellipses and laconic style of early Deighton. Beta double plus.

PAPERBACKS

Trading a mare

Announcement of the 10 winners of nationwide Poetry of War competition organized by BBC Schools in association with the Imperial War Museum, and sponsored by British Petroleum. Ernon Scannell has a good line in here which begins:

Whenever war is spoken of
I find the war that was called Great
invades the mind...

...spect it is the same for most of the 4-18 business — Passchendaele, gas, mud, Moans — are burned in our imagination of war: they war. In a way, perhaps, this is the horrors of Auschwitz too much: reality here stepped not beyond imagining. Neither Kit Wright nor Thomas Carthy engage with such huge lines in paperback selections of

their recent verse. Wright has a nice Byronic contempt for poetry itself. When they say
That every day
Men die miserably without it:
I doubt it.

This is grown up, but if it was all he could do it would hardly be enough. Rather more interesting is his attempt, in the title poem, to use a similar wit to keep things moving along even where inspiration dries up. Here is a resourceful and clever writer, with an educated ear, who is always entertaining and occasionally something more. His best stanzas look drunk and sound drunk, but I suspect that a sober imagination — and certainly a sober technique — were needed in order to achieve them.

Do not be deceived by the doggerel in McCarthy's *Seven Winters in Paris*. Here are ladies with "Natassia Kinski eyes" and others with "Marie Corelli faces", and the poet himself is a gentleman who doesn't mind rhyming "nappy-changing" with "Sudocrem". Imagination is inflated in these recent little meditations on modern life just in order to prick it upon the actual, which he usually equates with the absurd.



Still fretting at the conventions: Michael Frayn, whose plays are almost as funny on the page as on the stage

Boxed set of farce

Hamish Lennox

JAMIE ON A FLYING VISIT/BIRTHDAY
By Michael Frayn
Methuen, £5.99

Though never intended as companion pieces, the scripts for Michael Frayn's television plays make apt book-fellows. Each concerns a large, ebullient and thick-skinned visitor disrupting a dull household and becoming incapacitated on the premises, which accordingly fill up with superfluous details. Each advertises its plot by means of early hints the size of barrage balloons. When Jamie descends on an old flame, his promise of the title (which could equally have been *Jamie's Ten Minutes*) lets you know it will be days. When the birthday girl's hugely pregnant sister begins her lunchtime visit with the announcement that her babies always arrive overdue, you feel like dialling the first two nines and standing by for developments.

These set-ups aren't quite the stuff of the Whitehall Theatre, but their debt to traditional farce is patent. In the same way that Alan Ayckbourn's drama, though ostensibly designed to provoke unease in its audience, is in fact uneasy with itself — it can't decide whether its farcical instincts are quite acceptable in polite company — so Frayn's comedy frets at the conventions without threatening them. Ayckbourn began with farce and moved

on to his celebrated no-man's-land; only much later did Frayn go the whole hog with *Noises Off*.

When Jamie was first transmitted in the *Wednesday Play* slot in 1968 (the tapes were wiped) the epynym was played by Anton Rodgers, a *farceur* of note. Its comedy is predicated on the visible contrast between the outside, maladroitness and the cramped semi, where his sometime undergraduate sweetheart subsists with three children and a harassed school-

master husband (Dinsdale Landen, if you please). In brisk succession Jamie accidentally trashes the front hedge, spills or breaks any number of household effects, and caps his performance by destroying the banisters while helpfully manoeuvring a bed down the staircase. With a broken leg in plaster he still insists on taking the wife for a spin in his Jaguar, a trip which does for the lamp-post across the road and wrecks the husband's car.

This is all rather Laurel and Hardy, and almost as funny on the page, but the comedy deteriorates when Jamie invites his hooray pals around for drinks.

The house begins to burst at the seams, and the displaced sexual sadism of his antics mutates into class churlishness. In *Birthday*, a titbit with a softer centre, the principle tension is between the monstrous self-absorption of the pregnant visitor and the rational arguments of her sister's flatmates, childless experts on child psychology. This element is unfortunately old-hat, and the whole script is nothing like so visually inventive as *Jamie*. Appropriately enough, the BBC is to revive the second play for radio, while the first will reappear on television. Frayn is a loss to that medium.

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Age Group	Percentage of Respondents
18-29	85%
30-49	80%
50-69	75%
70+	70%

THE ARTS

Wall of silence

TELEVISION
Sheridan Morley

Ten years ago, the problems of child abuse were largely ignored in this country by those unwilling or unable to accept the level and intensity of the problem. Now, much the same situation faces those trying to deal with abuse of the old and infirm.

By the year 2000, as *Public Eye* (BBC 2) observed in its chilling survey, there will be a million people in Britain over the age of 85, many of them unable to look after themselves. More and more frequently, hospitals are now receiving elderly patients with unmistakable signs of bruising and even broken arms and legs, caused by a usually caring younger relative suddenly unable to deal with the pressures of living with a parent who demands 24-hour attention.

The answer, as several consultant geriatricians remarked on the programme, is not as simple as the appointing of blame. Many of the guilty relatives are loving children and grandchildren driven to distraction by the lack of professional assistance and the feeling of being totally trapped with a parent day and night.

But the stigma understandably attached to the abuse of the elderly means that few are willing to talk about it: the victims for fear of being cast out of the family home, and the perpetrator for shame at the realization of what has suddenly happened in a once-loving household. A wall of silence still surrounds the problem, but it is one that Subhi Babsa's documentary begins to breach.

Later, as a curtain-raiser to tonight's *Rhythms of the World* concert, *Arena* (BBC 2) profiled Salfi Kells, known as the golden voice of Mali, and an albino singer apparently able in childhood to scare most of the animals off his father's farm by the sheer volume of his fervent singing. Tonight's concert promises, therefore, to be noisy, even if Kells himself appears to have had some sort of charisma-bypass operation.

Back in BBC1's *Whicker's World* (or "Ego Trip", which might have been the better title) the blazered maestro found himself a really good interview. It was with Jack Edwards, a survivor of Japanese prison camps, who returned to Hong Kong to fight for pensions and passports for those families of all nationalities who fought alongside him in the defence of the Crown Colony in 1941. Sadly, this fight may prove equally doomed under government policy.

But Whicker has also at last found some old newsreels of the Chinese escaping to Hong Kong from the very country which is now about to reclaim them, and he is wisely plundering his own earlier footage to establish how the colony has changed both economically, industrially and socially as well.

Brush with the unusual

The star of London's newest musical, Sondheim's *Sunday in the Park with George*, is a huge painting. But is the National Theatre painting itself into profit or loss? Peter Lewis reports

A week of intense activity at the Lyttelton reaches a climax tonight with the first preview of Stephen Sondheim's *Sunday in the Park with George*. Scenically, it is the most elaborate show mounted by the National Theatre for years. It has to be the musical stars a famous painting.

In order to recreate Georges Seurat's crowded canvas, "Sunday afternoon on the island of La Grande Jatte", 10 scene painters worked for six weeks on the National's huge paint-frame, producing six versions of the painting, on varying scales.

They have stuck faithfully to Seurat's controlled palette of 11 colours plus white, but pontillism on this scale takes application. All those dots have to be flicked into place, and very few can be applied by paint-roller, even a spotty one. The riverscape glimpsed through the trees runs upstage on a cyclorama, well into what is normally the backstage scene dock. The Lyttelton's depth of stage can outdo even the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

Having begun with the stage as a blank canvas, the living picture is finally assembled at the first act curtain. As Act II begins, it is hanging on the wall of its Chicago gallery - but this, too, turns out to be a *tableau vivant*, which bursts into song. Few theatres have the dimensions to accommodate illusion-building on this scale, so Sondheim jumped at the chance. He says it was his dream to see the show staged at the Lyttelton.

The National's executive director, David Aukin, at first invited Sondheim's collaborator, James Lapine, to restage the Broadway production with its original principals. But, after a year of failing to get everyone back together, he and Richard Eyre, artistic director of

the National, decided to stage their own production, with director Steven Pimlott and designer Tom Cairns. It is not a reproduction of the Broadway show of 1984, the only common participant being Sondheim himself.

Mounting musicals in subsidised theatres is a contentious process, as the RSC found out. Even a musical that makes as much money as *Les Misérables* was castigated for keeping the Bard out of the Barbican for months; if a show fails, public ire is even greater.

Musicals require a largely specialized cast, are notoriously expensive, and appeal to a different audience from the regular patrons. At the National, there have been two precedents: one was its biggest hit, the other, its most resounding disaster. In 1982, *Gyps and Dolls* played 370 sold-out performances before transferring. It was a critical success, as well as paying off the theatre's deficit.

The notorious miscalculation, *Jean Seberg*, bombed in 1983 and lost most of what *Gyps and Dolls* had made. The National was not only blamed artistically, it was condemned for allowing its stage to be used for a comparatively cheap try-out of a Broadway gamble. Worst, it was committed to giving the show 75 performances to half-empty houses.

Sunday in the Park is the first reprise to be attempted since that

unhappy turkey. This time there are no deals or plans for commercial exploitation. The show is seen as a purely National Theatre enterprise which could pay its way within the scheduled run.

The initial cost of staging is £250,000-£300,000 (a bargain by commercial theatre standards), and advance bookings already top £500,000. The show opens halfway to its target of £1.2 million, thanks in part to a contribution of £100,000 from the producer and Sondheim devotee, Cameron Mackintosh. "He is doing it for love of the show," Aukin said.

But no chickens are being counted yet. *Sunday in the Park* ran for only 15 months on Broadway, despite glowing reviews. No London management wanted to risk it here, where Sondheim musicals, other than *A Little Night Music*, have not done well at the box office. But Aukin argues that it is exactly the sort of musical the National Theatre should be doing.

"It's a musical for playgoers... Sondheim is up there among the straight playwrights, like Albee. I think we should drop the artificial distinction between straight and musical theatre as two different genres. At its best, musical theatre ranks alongside straight drama and it is proper for the National Theatre to include in its repertoire the finest examples. He admits to personal adora-



PETER LEWIS

"It's a mistake to do musicals to generate income," David Aukin says for the musical, but adds: "It's a mistake to do musicals to generate income. They must be done for their own sake, in good faith. And new ones are probably best left to others." If this one works, there could well be other revivals. But with 17

Beached banality

RADIO
Martin Cropper

Lenny Bruce on Bondi (Radio 3, Tuesday) was a title in search of a story. What it found was an imploding fantasy born of sentimental regression. An ageing magazine journalist (Australian ex-pat in London) is sent audio cassettes of an unnamed American holding forth on a surf-heavy beach. His fugueyish editor posts him to Sydney to investigate their provenance in the company of a glamorous researcher, whose husband just happens to be a leading authority on Lenny Bruce, as well as a dentist.

The sender of the tapes just happens to be an old school chum and is now a mediocre comedian. In 1951 (he now says) he hung out on the beach with the then unknown Bruce, recording improvised comedy routines on his old reel-to-reel. After the longest dramatic pause in showbiz history, he now wishes to go public.

The spirit of Lenny Bruce being entirely absent from all this, it was a tactical error to end the play with a genuine chunk of that master of surrealism in concert. Adrian George's play was both naturalistic and thoroughly unlikable, a combination which leads to banality.

The journalists spoke like policemen giving evidence, while the Australian comic's conversational style seemed to have been lifted from a magazine page. This undoubtedly saved his old friend much time when it came to writing up the story. On the beach: "Here comes Sammy with what looks like a carrier-bag full of cassettes." The inner eye looked up in astonishment.

Last night, as though to make amends, Radio 3 brought Samuel Beckett with what still looks like one of the BBC's most inspired commissions. *All That Fall* (1957) inhabits a hucolic purgatory abandoned by nature: even the sounds of the wildlife are patently actors practising animal impressions. The country railway station is not so much a location as a hallucination, and this is precisely why Beckett works on radio. His landscapes, being essentially interior, do not benefit from visual representation. They belong to the page and to the airwaves.

ON MONDAY
Paul Griffiths reviews the new staging of Elektra at Covent Garden, and David Toop watches Spandau Ballet in Docklands

Decency unbreached

Paul Griffiths

Der Rosenkavalier
New, Cardiff

Göran Järvefelt's death last November left Welsh National Opera with sets and costumes for *Der Rosenkavalier*, but no production to put inside them. Wolfgang Weber nobly agreed to produce the opera with the Carl Friedrich Oberle designs, which was not too much of a limitation, where the sets are concerned, since Oberle's slantwise views for the first two acts cleverly suggest grand rooms on a small stage.

The costumes, though, are more personal: this is a very plainly dressed Sophie, the Rose Cavalier makes an oddly unglamorous appearance in baggy silver clothes and straying powdered wig, reminding one of the Järvefelt-Oberle Rheingold, and the Mars-

challin in Act III has a gown in strident red set off by white fur and the high white cocked hat of a pantomime finale. The only decisive point made by the clothes is that the imps who terrify Ochs are got up as miniature Octavians.

Otherwise this is a production remarkable only in its moderation: moderately conventional, moderately funny, moderately lively, moderately attentive to the ripples of emotion. It seems characteristic of the evening's chasteness that Octavian and the Marschallin should be discovered at the beginning not in bed but flopped on a couch, with the lad's breeches still firmly sealed.

The singing is on the same level of decency, though there are many signs that this will change. Rita Cullis's Marschallin, most notably, was much more assured in the

last act, even despite the vulgar costume, than in the first. Where she had risked too much rawness and fragility of tone and phrasing in searching for expressive shading, she found for the close that superbness which perhaps she can now make innate from the start. She already has the distinction of being able to put across a great deal of the text: only she and Donald Adams's Ochs take any advantage from the fact - or even allow one to hear, for much of the time - that the piece is being sung in English. Or rather in New York Cockney where Constance Fee's Octavian as Mariandl is concerned. Apart from that problem, Fee had difficulties in keeping intonation and a thin sound at the top under control; she also needs stiffer direction in looking manish.

Amanda Roccoft as Sophie

looks properly pretty and sings winningly. If there was some nervousness at making her professional debut in so exposed a part, it quickly passed, and left us with a creamy middle register out of which the high notes were projected with perfect, steady grace.

Donald Adams, quite some way past his debut, offers an Ochs with only a few strong notes left, though he makes good use of his experience on stage, twinkling, bellowing and expostulating against the wan average of the characterization in this production. There are also some nice cameos, particularly from Jennifer Rhye Davies as the duenna, Peter Brander as an excellent, unexaggerated Italian Tenor, and Dennis Wicks as the police chief.

More generally, and not for the



Debut: Amanda Roccoft (Sophie)

first time in a WNO production, the musical quality is banded up a good few notches. Mackerras's work in the pit. His speeds sometimes test the orchestra (at the start of the final act, for instance), but while providing an accompaniment secure in its richness and detail, he finds the darkness always waiting in the score, and gives the music the pounce of the theatre.

Sound-mix cue for mutiny

JAZZ
Clive Davis
Hilton Ruiz
QEH

By the time he left the stage, Hilton Ruiz had finally won over his audience. It was, however, a close-run thing. The opening date in his Contemporary Music Network tour came very close to falling apart. The problems were not entirely the pianist's

fault. During the first half, in particular, he had to contend with an atrocious sound-mix which rendered half of the eight-piece band inaudible, and swamped the rest of the musicians with feedback. Although this is becoming a regular event at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, some of the audience were close to mutiny by the interval.

The other difficulty was probably self-inflicted. This simply did not look like a group which had given itself enough time to rehearse. Cues were regularly fluffed, and for much of the time the front line of trombonist Dick Griffin, saxophonist Peter Brainin and trumpeter Danny Moore, seemed to have no idea what Ruiz was planning to do next. Ultimately, the show was held together by the group's



Starting on a poor note: pianist Hilton Ruiz, plagued by technicals accomplished rhythm section, the congas and timbales seamlessly switching back and forth between a Latin beat and a more fluid pop attack. That fusion of salsa and straight jazz has become Ruiz's trademark in a series of albums for Novus. A New Yorker of Puerto Rican descent, he studied piano with Mary Lou Williams and served most of his musical apprenticeship with the unpredictable Roland Kirk. On his last LP, *Strut*, he continued

So who cares whodunit?

THEATRE
Jeremy Kingston
Moscow Shadows
New End Theatre

Understandably, plays about Moscow life are flavour of the month. But this particular one is not made in Russia and exported by courtesy of *glasnost*: it is authored by Harris W. Friedman, Brooklyn-born and bred, and rings false from beginning to end.

We are in Anna Petrovna's flat one February afternoon a year ago. Her grandson, Igor, has had the good fortune to walk out a couple of minutes before the play begins, and the even greater good fortune of staying away for the duration.

He therefore misses the arrival of Natasha Ivanovna from the flat next door and is spared the aggressive delivery that Josephine Tewson brings to the role, trumpeting information her neighbour already knows: "Your Vladimir resigned from the party when Khrushchev sent the tanks on to the streets in Budapest." Or she asks some such rhetorical question as: "If socialism is the answer, why did it take Olga Alexandrovna two years to obtain a visa to Tashkent?" Not many people know the answer to that.

Anna Petrovna illegally takes in boarders; Natasha Ivanovna illegally trades in furs; Olga Alexandrovna is another character who stays in the wings, but that is because she has been murdered. "Who would want to murder Olga Alexandrovna?" somebody asks, in order to cue in a certain line from Viktor Nikolavich, the local Razzler. "That," he announces, glaring at suspects over his seriously Russian moustache, "is exactly what I am here to find out."

Why was this play written? Not, I suppose, to convey to a wider audience such tributes as the number of citizens who must live on only 75 roubles a month. This is the gossip favoured by Natasha's shy son, Alexei Isavich, to instruct his girlfriend - Mariya Lvovna, if you are still with me. No, the principal characters are Jewish, and Friedman is honourably moved by their sufferings, now as always. But his worthy aims translate into drama to very poor effect, and it is a dreadful idea to graft the steamroller tactics of a Brooklyn momma into a Moscow whodunit.

Because Anna Petrovna is conceived in less off-putting terms, and Barbara Lott does not rattle through the speeches, her mention of social issues seems to derive from her experience. On the other hand, fur-draped Mariya Lvovna (Denise Stephenson), gasping to her man in the corridor, "Take me now!" is straight from pulp fiction.

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RECORDS

Painting the unpredictable

CLASSICAL
Hilary FinchFour Icelandic Orchestral Works
Icelandic Symphony
Orchestra/Sakari (ITM 6-02)
(available from Iceland Music
Information Centre, Freyjugata 1,
101 Reykjavik)

Small can be less than beautiful if nobody knows that you are, and isolation is both an artistic blessing and curse. Contemporary Icelandic composers have it made in that an unusually large percentage of new works are performed shortly after completion. Compared with their other Nordic colleagues, though, little of their music is programmed in Europe, and recordings are not yet adequately distributed.

It is worth experimenting with the latest release put out by the Iceland Music Information Centre. Here are four quite different voices from the older generation of living composers, the youngest of whom is Halldor Halgrimsson, one-time pupil of Maxwell Davies and principal cello of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra. His *Poem*, for solo violin and strings, are sharply defined responses to three paintings by Chagall depicting Jacob's dream, the sacrifice of Isaac and Jacob wrestling with the angel.

CLASSICAL UPDATE

Boulez: Improvisations sur Mallarmé I-II, Le marteau sans maître, Figures-Double-Prismes Various musicians (Stradivarius STR 10028)
The early performances of the Mallarmé settings (1959, under Boulez) and *Le*

The solo violin, played with vibrant physical immediacy, leaps forward with the virtuosity of a true Chagall fiddler. The orchestra knows its place: it refuses to become involved thematically, but distances itself from the violin's searchingly original writing by providing a framework of attenuated skeins of sound.

Leifur Thorarinnsson is a passionate, perverse, yet essentially romantic voice. His 1983 *Hautspil* or *Autumn Play* is an extreme example of the unpredictability which characterizes contemporary Icelandic composition. In just more than 10 minutes, nothing is repeated: a wave of Straussian intensity, a sudden woodwind frolic, a sniping of brass, an Ivesian tutti assert the constant volatility of the present. An occasionally recurring pulse gives the only sense of continuity.

Erling Blöndal Bengtsson commissioned and here plays Jón Nordal's contrastingly subtle and pungently orchestrated single-movement Cello Concerto from the same year. Its soloists stimulate change and evolution in the cello itself, which moves reluctantly from confrontation to dialogue. A brave soundtrack of an *Adagio* from Magnús Jóhannsson provides six minutes of characteristically Chagall depicting Jacob's dream, the sacrifice of Isaac and Jacob wrestling with the angel.

Marteau (1961, under Maderna) are of archival interest, but the *Figures* is something more: the first available recording of a modern masterpiece. Maderna conducts the Hague Residentie Orchestra, which a few months before gave this 1958 version its premiere under Boulez.

With a cool head

SPOKEN WORD
Peter DavalleThe Mayor of Casterbridge Listen
for Pleasure (LFT7733-9)
Take It From Here BBC Radio
Collection (ZBBC1113)

Having played Michael Henchard in the BBC television version, Alan Bates was probably the automatic choice for the formidable task of reading this three-hour condensation of Hardy's tale of the hay-trimmer who spends a lifetime paying the penalty for having had a couple of drinks too many. *The Mayor of Casterbridge* is one calamity after the other, and without Bates's foot firmly pressed on the emotional brakes, this reading could leave you, me — and him —

prostrate with exhaustion. It is a fate we are all spared. Bates even manages to keep his cool when coping with such purplish passages as "smouldering sentiments being fanned into higher and higher inflammation".

The four 1958 editions of *Take It From Here* include the comedy series' tenth anniversary celebration in which, memorably, the weather forecast went all operatic ("The mercury's sunk to the figure 0 — Figaro! Figaro!"), and in which Jimmy Edwards and Dick Bentley contributed the following nostalgic exchange: "I admit I've put on a bit of weight in the interim"/"Yes, you've put on a bit on the outer rim, too." For scriptwriters Frank Muir and Denis Norden, and for radio comedy generally, these were indeed the golden years.

Wayward poet makes good

JAZZ

Clive Davis

Frank Morgan Mood Indigo
(Artiles 51320)
Bobby Watson & Horizon The
Inventor (Blue Note CDP 79195)
Charles Lloyd Quartet Fish Out Of
Water (ECM 1396)
Ben Webster King Of The Tenors
(Verve 837431)

Drugs, crime and prison: the story of Frank Morgan's career sounds depressingly familiar. But for once, there is a chance that the saga will have a happy ending.

In the early Fifties Morgan was being hailed as the West Coast's answer to Charlie Parker. Still a teenager, he was turning up in session after session across Los Angeles. By 17 he was a heroin addict. Like the West Coast's other alto star, Art Pepper, he slid into drug abuse. And that, more or less, was the story of the next three decades, during which Morgan served time in a string of prisons. In San Quentin, he and Pepper became co-leaders of the Warden's Band, occasionally touring the prison network.

Seemingly unable to cope with life outside prison, Morgan was not ready to tackle New York until 1986, when he finally made his debut at the Village Vanguard. A series of albums on the Contemporary label helped spread the word. If he still ranks somewhere below a true giant like Pepper, *Mood Indigo* amounts to an affirmation of his progress so far.

If he were just another bebop player, Morgan would scarcely merit all this belated attention. Like Pepper, he quickly advanced far beyond routine copies of Parker licks. The spaciousness and melodic flair of his playing — pure West Coast — carry him way beyond rigid adherence to the well-worn chord sequences. On this session the decision to avoid the standard bebop repertoire makes sense. "Lullaby", the intensely personal lament which opens the album, is a concise summary of what is to follow.

The well-advertised presence of Wynton Marsalis on two of the numbers should give the record a high profile. This is first and foremost a quartet date. Morgan is supported by bassist Buster Williams and drummer Al Foster, while George Cables shares the piano duties with Ronnie Matthews. Williams's solo piece, "A Moment Alone", forms a pensive interlude halfway through the record.

Morgan's idiosyncratic approach brings up some unusual material, including "This Love of Mine" and "Polka Dots and Moonbeams". Their inclusion makes up for the desperately over-familiar "Round Midnight", not to mention that old stand-by "In A Sentimental Mood". On the latter, at least, Morgan's duet with Cables lifts the music out of the rut. Marsalis's contribution, meanwhile, may well arouse mixed feelings, though it seems childish to complain after all he has done to champion Morgan's comeback. The Ellingtonian title track is wonderfully relaxed, but

the same cannot be said of the trumpeter's playing on Coltrane's "Bessie's Blues". Starting out with a vivacious solo, he gradually manoeuvres himself into a punctilious dead-end. If Morgan is the wayward poet, Marsalis is the student declaiming from a grammar textbook.

Bobby Watson's *Blue Note* release is inevitably over-shadowed by Morgan's album. All the same, at least half of this disc catches the ex-Blakey altoist at his very best. Hearing him with his own group, Horizon, makes us all the more aware of how much we miss when he appears with pick-up bands during visits to Britain.

One of his originals, "Heckle And Jeckle", launches proceedings at a stunning pace in a frantic quintet performance suspended over Benny Green's insistent piano motif. Here, for once, is proof that the "neo-boppers" can swing with a vengeance: the flow of adrenaline would put a hip-hop band to shame. Awash with criss-crossing rhythms, the music is redolent of Watson's work with the much-praised 29th Street Saxophone Quartet. After the storm subsides, the second half of the session is a more workmanlike selection.

Charles Lloyd's label, ECM, is doing its best to paint his first studio recording in 10 years as the event of the century.

One of the first jazz artists to pull in the big rock audiences, Lloyd retired from the fray at the end of the Sixties. His re-emergence in the early Eighties showed him moving a long way from his fusion extravaganzas. *Fish Out Of Water* is archetypal ECM chamber-jazz, tastefully presented by Bobo Stenson (piano), Palle Danielson (bass) and Jon Christensen (drums). Lovers of Jan Garbarek are sure to fall for Lloyd's caring, unassuming tone. Less committed listeners will probably feel that there is a fine line dividing the introspective from the inconsequential.

As for the re-issue of Ben Webster's *King Of The Tenors*, a critic's scribbles become just about irrelevant. All that needs to be said is that this is Webster in the early Fifties, blowing superlatively alongside Oscar Peterson and Harry Edison. An absolute gem. The title says it all.



Swinging with a vengeance: "neo-bopper" Bobby Watson's performance would put a hip-hop band to shame

JAZZ UPDATE

Carmen McRae Live (Verve Video CFV 10252) (60min)
Video CFV 10252 (60min)
Another Tokyo date. McRae is at her most compelling in the brief interlude when her musicians leave her alone at the electric and acoustic piano.

Keith Jarrett Standards II (Verve Video CFV 10242) (60min)
A faithful video document of the pianist's popular trio, recorded in Tokyo in 1986. Jarrett's groans and grimaces are no more of a distraction than they are on record.

Chet Baker & Art Pepper The Route (Capitol/Pacific Jazz CD-CZ258)
A precursor of the classic 1956 album, the disc brings together all 11 tracks for the first time. Pepper, not long out of jail, soars through his three trio tracks.

Mike Nicholls reports on a new approach to fighting bootleggers

Bootleg recordings, for years an affliction on the record industry, are being encouraged on a tour by the Mission, which opens tomorrow in Liverpool. The band is inviting fans to bring tape recorders to their performances to make souvenirs of the event. Normally it is forbidden to make unauthorized recordings at rock shows and fans are warned that equipment may be confiscated.

Bootlegging has been around since the days of the Beatles. In 1967, a man was jailed for a month and fined £50,000 after being found guilty of running a duplicating and distribution operation. The conviction was due largely to the efforts of the British Phonographic Industry, which considers it has a duty to protect the interests of record companies.

Since current material can only be released by the label to which the artist is signed at the time,

Do it yourself bootlegs

record companies do not take kindly to bootleggers. "A lot of people buy things which are of uncertain quality and can cost up to £20," says Wayne Hussey of the Mission, who suggested letting fans tape live concerts. "It's not going to affect record sales. If anything, it will stimulate them by giving us a higher profile. Every gig is worth taping because it's different. They're useful for us, too. They make us realize we're not as good as we think."

Tim Dabin, co-ordinator of the BPI's Anti-Piracy Unit, takes a different view. "In signing a contract with a record company, the band is not in a position to waive the company's exclusive rights to their recordings by allowing fans to make recordings of their own. I can't condone what the Mission is doing since we are supposed to be protecting their record company's copyrights, not giving them away."

ROCK UPDATE

3rd Bass The Cactus Album (Def Jam 460003 1)
Imaginative, irreverent succession of progressive rap collages from the Long Beach "Gang Bangers" posse of M.C. Search, Prime Minister Pete Nice and DJ Richie Rich.

Pale Saints The Comforts of Madness (4AD CADZ 0002)
Leads trio in the forefront of the new wave of indie bands. A melancholy affair which betrays such impeccably hip influences as Sly Stone, Valentine, Spacemen 3 and the Jesus And Mary Chain.

The House Of Love Fontana (Fontana 842 293-1)
A low-key cracker that simply showcases Gary Chadwick's abilities as a singer in the Ray Davies mould, and as a songwriter with an alert, modern bent, albeit tempered by a mild fixation on the Beggar's Banquet-era Rolling Stones.

A-Z GUIDE TO ROCK

Part 19 of David Sinclair's collectors' A-Z, a guide to the essential albums of the most enduring performers of rock. To qualify for inclusion in this series, an act

must have sustained a recording career of at least 10 years, and have mastered at least one decent album during that time. The entries are designed to be pasted

on to index cards and stored in a 6in by 4in filing box, available from most good stationery shops to form an instant guide to the hits and misses of rock history.

ARETHA FRANKLIN

If you want to know the truth, explained Aretha Franklin's Baptist minister father, "Aretha never left the church." In other words, the thrilling, whooping, unearthly singing voice, which earned its owner the undisputed sobriquets Lady Soul and the Queen of Soul, was always a sanctified instrument. This is especially evident on *Amazing Grace* (1972), a superb double live album of the gospel standards on which she was brought up. But it was her righteous application of the gospel spirit to the more earthbound specifics of soul that made Franklin one of the most influential singers of the past 30 years. In the Sixties, she was propelled to the highest peaks of popular acclaim with a barrage of hits like "I Never Loved a Man", "Respect" and "Think", collated with many others on *20 Greatest Hits* (1987). Her 1968 album, *Lady Soul*, remains a singularly impressive monument to her greatness, with "Chain of Fools", "People Get Ready" and "A Natural Woman" exemplifying a range and passion that is little short of divine.



Lady Soul: Aretha Franklin

FREE/BAD COMPANY

Obviously a product of the late Sixties blues boom, Free evolved a uniquely arresting style, flaunting just about the leanest, most austere rock group sound ever recorded, and playing its uniformly slow material with all the latent power and cool purpose of a stalking cat. Free (1968) is an unspook example of their taut machismo-rock, and presaged the commercial success of 1970's *Fire and Water* with its classic single "All Right Now". Free Live! up. But it was her righteous application of the gospel spirit to the more earthbound specifics of soul that made Franklin one of the most influential singers of the past 30 years. In the Sixties, she was propelled to the highest peaks of popular acclaim with a barrage of hits like "I Never Loved a Man", "Respect" and "Think", collated with many others on *20 Greatest Hits* (1987). Her 1968 album, *Lady Soul*, remains a singularly impressive monument to her greatness, with "Chain of Fools", "People Get Ready" and "A Natural Woman" exemplifying a range and passion that is little short of divine.

NEXT WEEK: Peter Dinklage, Marvin Gaye

LINKWORDS ANSWER: The answer to last week's puzzle was INDELICATE. The linkwords were CIDER, TRICE, CRATE, ALTER, TRIAL, ALERT, LARGE, EAGER, ANGER, REIGN, GRIPE.

Relivin
past
glories

Inter-Flowering
erry

EDUCING

19

3

OUTINGS

Reliving past glories

● *The garden at the Manor House, Upton Grey (6m SE of Basingstoke) in Upton Grey village, next to the church) is open to visitors as part of the National Gardens Scheme, May 27, June 10, July 1; 2-5pm. Admission £1, child 50p.*

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THE TIMES **Which?** CONSUMER REPORT

Report by Nicole Swengley

The best line in washing

There are more than 200 different washing machines in the shops to choose from, costing anywhere between £200 and £1,250. The best way to narrow selection is to decide which programmes and features will be most useful to you, as well as considering the size and style of machine, spinning performance, running costs, convenience and, these days, the environmental factors. *Which?* magazine has tested most of the machines available and its recommendations are given below in the "Buying Guide".

CHOOSING A WASHING MACHINE

● **Standard wash programmes.** Most machine-washable clothes have care labels which indicate the wash temperature and the wash action recommended. All the machines tested claim to have programmes which will wash at the correct temperatures for most things. Some machines display the care symbols on the front panel.

● **Flexibility.** Some machines have their main programmes and temperatures pre-set, so you need only to set one control (although there may be a separate economy button). With others, you set the programme and temperature separately. These may be slightly more complicated but offer greater flexibility.

Similarly, some machines have a pre-wash facility, which is built in to certain programmes, while others have pre-wash as a separate option. This provides more flexibility but could be inconvenient if it means having to set the main programme. Some machines tested have both types.

● **Built-in delay timers.** Timers allow you to use the machine at night without having to add a time-switch — useful if you have an Economy 7 electricity meter. If a computerized machine does not have a built-in timer it is unlikely that it can be used with an independent time-switch. This is because the machine cannot be programmed until the electricity supply is connected — after the time-switch has operated.

● **Economy programmes.** These are available on most

machines. The most common is half-load (or reduced load), which reduces the amount of water and detergent needed when you want to wash only a few things. But most "half-loads" do not really halve the amounts of water, detergent or electricity used, compared with the machine's full load, so doing two half-loads is not as economical as waiting until you can tackle a full load.

Reduced temperature washes are useful for slightly soiled clothes, or easy-care fabrics, and with biological detergents. Generally, they still use about the same amount of water as the main programme; savings are made because they use less electricity. A quick-wash programme may be useful for freshening up a lightly soiled load in about half an hour.

● **Wool programme.** All but two machines tested by *Which?* have a wool programme, approved by the International Wool Secretariat, for washing woollens labelled "Machine washable". The Bendix Super Compact and the Fagor F9800 washer-drier are unsuitable for washing wool.

● **Other wash programmes.** "Multifabric" programmes allow you to mix different fabric types in the wash. It sounds useful but it is a long, low-temperature soak, generally taking four to five hours. "Drain" means you can drain the water out without spinning if you want to drip-dry washing. "Cold wash" means that the machine takes in only cold water. "No heater" means washing at the temperature of incoming water.

SPIN SPEEDS

The faster a machine spins, the drier your washing will be. This cuts drying time and, if you have a tumble drier, your running costs. For example, a 4kg (8½lb) load of mixed cottons spun in a 1,000 rev/min machine takes about an hour to tumble dry at a cost of about 13p. The time and cost would double if the same load were spun in a 500 rev/min washing machine.

The difference between 850 and 1,100 rev/min is not so crucial. Some machines which claim upwards of 1,000 rev/min maximum spin speed never spin that quickly when loaded, or do not spin at that speed for very long, and some machines with lower claimed spin speeds spin for longer.

Delicate and easy-care fabrics do not require a roaring spin which will wring them up. With most fast-spin machines, either there is a lower spin-speed option button or a suitable speed will be selected automatically at the end of each programme. Some machines have a variable spin-speed control.

Most of the tested machines have "spin delay" (sometimes called "rinse hold"), which lets the washing sit in the last rinse water rather than settle into creases after spinning.

RUNNING COSTS

● **Detergent.** Some machines use detergent more efficiently than others, either by the way they circulate the wash water or by valves on the drainage system. Others pre-fill the machine with some water before the detergent is washed from the dispenser, so not much gets away. Some machines allow 25 per cent or more of the detergent to drop unused through the drum.

● **Electricity.** Assuming you wash one hot cotton load and one synthetic washes a week, the cost would be between £4 and £7 a quarter if you do full loads using full-price electricity, whether you have a hot-and-cold fill machine or a cold-fill only.

In practice, many people do not pay this much. If you have an Economy 7 meter and you use your machine only during the cheap-rate period, your running costs would be about third of these figures.

● **Gas or oil cost less to heat water than full-price electricity, reducing the expense a little for hot-and-cold fill. But, unless you are using Economy machines, the machine still needs some full-price electricity for**

its pump and motor and to get the wash water hotter than that in your hot taps.

● **Water.** All washing machines use a lot of water, but there are big differences between models. The best machines, which use less than 70 litres (15.5 gallons) of water per wash would, on current average water charges, cost no more than around £3.50 per quarter (assuming five washes a week). Machines which use more than 100 litres per wash will cost upward of £6.

THINKING GREEN

Amid the furore over machines designated "green", *Which?* says that some manufacturers have for many years been making washing machines with energy-saving and water-saving features.

The best way to save energy is to use the lower temperature programmes, particularly when your washing is not that dirty. Choosing a half-load option helps, but waiting to wash a full load is better.

MACHINE TYPES

● **Front-loaders.** If space is not a problem, you will probably want a full-size front-loading machine. These take 4kg to 5kg (8½-11lb) of mixed cottons in the maximum load and are designed with standard 60cm-width kitchen units in mind. Most are around 85cm high to fit neatly under worktops. If you want the front to fit flush with your unit doors, check the space pipework takes up at the back. Front loaders start at around £200. Typically, at the

lowest end of the price range, the spin speed is 800 rev/min with few features and little choice of programmes. For around £250 to £350, you will get more choice in features and more flexible programming options as well as choice of machines with good spinning performance.

Machines costing between £350 and £450 can offer very good all-round performance. But paying this much does not necessarily guarantee top performance, since some models merely offer a hi-tech appearance, flashing lights and programmes you will not often use for the extra cost. Most of the machines described as being "environmentally aware" cost more than £400.

● **Top-loaders.** It might be worth considering one of these if you find it awkward to bend to use a front-loader. And if space is tight, you may prefer a drum-type top-loader, which is usually 15cm to 20cm narrower than full-size front-loaders. These take the same maximum load as front-loaders and work in a similar way. You cannot use a top-loader under the work surface and, with heights of 88cm to 90cm, you may not be able to fit one under it. But, assuming the hoses are long enough, you could roll it out to use. Or you could fit one in a corner.

Top-loaders start at around £370, but you can expect to pay more than £400 for a maximum spin speed of 1,000 rev/min or more.

● **Compacts.** Front-loaders are about three-quarters the size of a full-size machine and take about half the usual maximum load. They wash

satisfactorily but have low maximum spin speeds, leaving the washing feeling quite wet. The top-loading AEG 280 Digitronic is smaller than most top-loaders but it will still take 4.5kg (10lb) in its maximum load.

● **Washer-driers.** These wash and tumble dry in one drum, but most will dry only about half of their maximum wash load at one time. This usually means you have to take some of the washing out between washing and drying, though some will take 3kg (6.6lb) or so right through both cycles without stopping.

Most of them are condenser driers: they use cold water from your house supply to cool the warm, moist air so that it condenses and can be drained away. If you are worried about the amount of water they use for this process you could consider an air-venting model. These blow the warm moist air out of the machine. To avoid condensation indoors, you should use a vent hose to direct this air outside through a window, or a permanently installed vent in the wall.

RELIABILITY

Which? monitored the breakdowns and servicing records of machines which were at least three years old but bought within the past five years. Zanussi has been most reliable on average. Ariston, Candy, Hotpoint, Indesit, Philips and Servis were below average. AEG, Bendix, Electra and Hoover machines were not significantly different from the average. Most repairs arrived within three days. The Hotpoint repairs respoonded within two days. Most Indesit repairs finished the job on the spot. Most of the other manufacturers' repairs needed another day or two to fetch parts or equipment. Bendix took four days, on average, and the AEG repairs took seven days.

Which? This article is based on a text report in the January issue of *Which?* an independent monthly magazine available only on subscription. It tests and reports on a variety of services, including money, household appliances and other equipment, motoring, food and health and consumer rights. To find out more about *Which?* — including details of how you can get the magazine free for three months — please write to Dept T, FREEPOST, Herford SG14 1YB or telephone free on 0800 252 100.

BUYING GUIDE

Full-size front-loading machines:

BEST BUYS in the £200-£250 range: Indesit 823, £250. The £250-£350 range: Hotpoint Electronic 800 De Luxe 9524, £300. The Candy D4-104X, £280, did not perform quite as well on the synthetic washing programme but is £20 cheaper. The Electrolux WH828 Electronic, £340, performs well but is more expensive.

GOOD VALUE in the £350-£450 range: If you want a computerized machine, the Hotpoint Microtronic 1000 De Luxe 9654, £390, performs well. The Zanussi FJ1023, £410, performs very well all round. The Hotpoint Electronic 9544, £370, with a spin speed of 1000 rev/min is similar to the recommended 9554 but has more programmes so may be worth considering.

GOOD BUT PRICEY: The AEG Lavamat 981 Sensortronic, £450, performs very well all round.

Full-size top-loading:

The Philips Silestar 850 T12 AWG090, £370, is worth considering if you want a top-loader.

Compacts:

The Candy Aquamatic 3, £280, is worth considering if you want a compact front-loader.

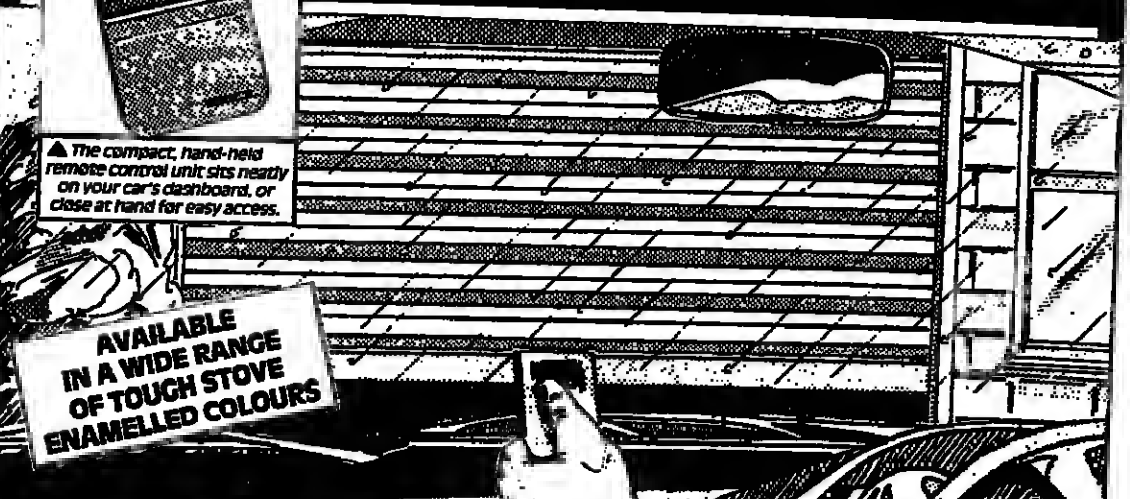
Washer-driers:

The Hoover AB548/50, £380, is worth considering if you want an air-vented washer-drier.

Best buy up to £250: Indesit 823, £250

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THE WEEK AHEAD



Good luck: Joan Carol Williams

THEATRE

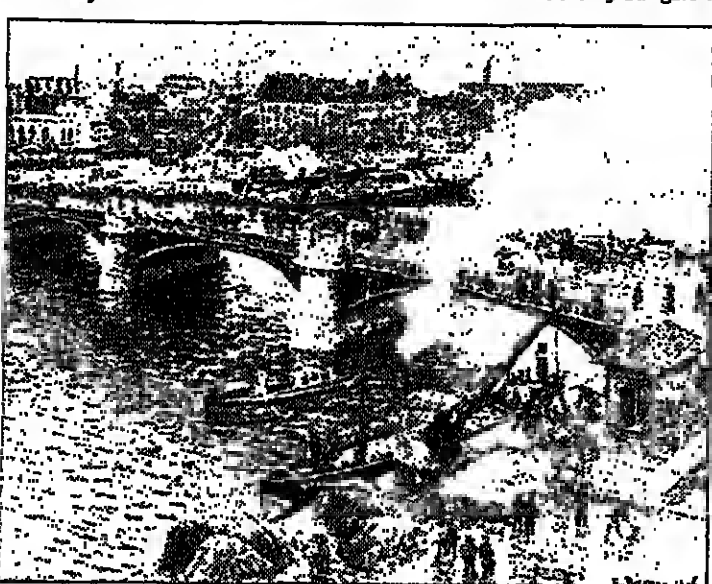
BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS: World premiere of Nigel Baldwin's play about a reunion of former student journalists. Nuffield, Southampton (0703 671771). Opens Thurs.

JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL: Tom Conti takes over from Peter O'Toole as the bibulous columnist. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1 (01-437 2663). From Mon.

MY NAME, SHALL I TELL YOU MY NAME: Christina Reid's tale of love between a young girl and her grandfather. Young Vic Studio, 66 The Cut, London SE1 (01-928 6363). Previews Tues, Wed. Opens Thurs.

SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE: UK premiere of Stephen Sondheim's James Lapina musical. Lyttelton, National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 2252). Previews from today. Opens Mar 15.

When a new theatre is to be opened the first hurdle is to make sure that the builders are on before the audience arrives. The West Yorkshire Playhouse in Leeds can be said to have cleared this one, because the Quarry Theatre (ceremonially opening next Thursday) is ready and waiting, even though work still continues on the smaller Courtyard Theatre, which is not due to be opened until May. The second hurdle is to make sure that there is drink in the bar. But the third and crucial hurdle is to come up with a production that so delights its first audiences that word spreads quickly and establishes the new theatre as a good thing. Jude Kelly, the artistic director, has made an inspired choice for her opening production in reviving *Wild Oats* by Sheridan's contemporary, John O'Keefe. This sprightly Regency comedy is packed with mistaken identities, heroes stolen in childhood, evicting landlords and a troupe of travelling players. Reece Dinsdale and Sam Kelly play Rover and his servant John Dory in roles reminiscent of the master and servant parts they play in the television series, *Haggard*. Among the female cast members are Helen Schlesinger and Joan Carol Williams. Good luck to them all. *Wild Oats*, West Yorkshire Playhouse, Quarry Hill Mount, Leeds. (0532 442111). Preview Wednesday. Opens Thursday. *Jeremy Kingston*



Unsentimental: Pissarro's 'Boiledieu, Rouen, damp weather', 1896

GALLERIES

DAVID LEE

LUCY JONES: Vivid, expressionist paintings and drawings of city scenes, plus a remarkable and forthright series of self-portraits. Drumcroom Art Centre, Wigan (0542 321840). From Mon.

FAKE? THE ART OF DECEPTION: A show about fake paintings and sculptures from all periods

ALISON WATT: Recent paintings by another of the seemingly inexhaustible supply of gifted young graduates of Glasgow Art School, who recently caused a stir with her controversial portrait of the Queen Mother. Scottish Gallery, London W1 (01-287 2121). From Wed.

Camille Pissarro (1831-1903) is a more complex artistic personality than a superficial view of his impressionist landscapes, cityscapes and figure studies would suggest. Politically an anarchist and a lucid theorist about the new demands placed on painting in the photographic age, his painting is much more than a pretty demonstration of an innovative technique. A new exhibition featuring more than 50 paintings, and including many drawings, attempts to link the work more closely than before to his personality and beliefs. With few breaks, however, were numerous. Pissarro could observe, experience and paint rural life without sentimentality. It also introduced him to the progressive industrialization of France. Pissarro included in his pictures the chimney stacks, telegraph wires and steam trains that some of his contemporaries left out as being incompatible with their bucolic visions. Camille Pissarro: Impressionism, Landscape and Rural Labour opens on Thursday at Birmingham City Museum and Art Gallery (021 2352834). Then May 4-June 17, The Burrell Collection, Glasgow.

BRIDGE

Malcolm Forbes died suddenly last Sunday at his New Jersey home. The day before, at his London address, he had been the gracious and genial host, and a member of the team, when Corporate America played bridge against peers and MPs.

The businessman beat the Commons team, captained by Sir Peter Emery, by a single International Match Point, but lost to the Lords, captained by the Duke of Atholl, by 16.

The occasion of Mr Forbes's final bridge game was in every way suited to the man. As host, as player, and just by being his buoyant self, he was the central figure in a jovial scene.

In the first match Mr Forbes, partnered by Mr Laurence Tisch, president of CBS, defended perfectly in a deal vital to their team's narrow win.

Dealer East. East-West vulnerable.

10888
AKJ73
Q10
O87
K6674

W N E S
Forbes Tisch
16 No No 22

Opening lead: Q. With the North cards, many would prefer one heart to a double. South might then respond with either 1NT or 2NT, which can be made.

At two diamonds, the heart opening was taken and the 10 of trumps led, losing to West's queen. Resisting the temptation to stack spades, Mr Forbes switched to the 9 of clubs, which ran to South's queen. The king of diamonds came back and East was in.

In a book on play, Terence Reese and I offered, as props for the grey cells, a great number of maxims including this one: Before giving partner a ruff, consider what the situation will be after the ruff.

Here, if East gives West a heart ruff, as many players would, the defence does not prosper. The defenders take the ruff, the ace and queen of trumps, and at most one spade, for if West does not cash the ace South's spades will go on the hearts.

East saw that the heart ruff could wait, and that to set the contract a club ruff would be needed. On winning with the king and South four that he was locked in dummy. What-ever he did now, the defenders would score a heart ruff, a club ruff and two spades.

The very next hand was also concerned with the timing of ruffs. Mr Forbes, still sitting West, was the declarer.

Dealer South. Both sides vulnerable.

10888
AKJ73
Q10
O87
K6674

W N E S
Forbes Tisch
16 No No 22

Opening lead: Q. With the North cards, many would prefer one heart to a double. South might then respond with either 1NT or 2NT, which can be made.

Winning heroine: Kathleen Turner teams up with Michael Douglas again for US hit *The War of the Roses*

Hollywood snapped up the rights to Warren Alder's novel *The War of the Roses* in the year of publication, 1980, though the property then became stalled. No one seemed interested in a film that began as a romantic comedy about a perfect couple and ended in the realms of the black farce with the squabbling partners, facing divorce, venting their fury by destroying each other's possessions. By 1985, the project had landed with the producer James Brooks, riding high after *Terms of Endearment*; production designer Polly Platt was initially pencilled in as director. Then the winning team arrived. Michael Douglas and Kathleen Douglas, a popular couple after

Romancing the Stone and its sequel, signed on as Barbara and Oliver Rose: players well-equipped to handle the film's volatile mixture of glamour, vindictiveness and physical thrills. The project obviously required a director with a hugely warped sense of humour. Who better, then, than Danny DeVito, pugacious actor and perpetrator of *Throw Momma From the Train*? (He also appears as Douglas's divorce lawyer.) This exhausting comic version of marital hell has been a huge box-office hit in America: so much for President Bush's pre-election pledge to promote "family values". Odeon Leicester Square (01-930 6111), from Friday, certificate 15.

SHADOW MAKERS (12): Roland Joffé's first film since *The Mission* — a sober, compelling account of scientist J. Robert Oppenheimer (Dwight Schultz) and his colleagues, performing the first atomic bomb. Paul Newman

towers on the sidelines as the Pentagon big-shot cracking the whip. Empire (01-437 1234). From Fri.

THE FABULOUS BAKER BOYS (15): A blonde sexy singer causes fireworks when she joins up with two cocktail pianists. Great fun, with subtle playing from Michelle Pfeiffer, Jeff and Beau Bridges, and accomplished work from writer-director Steve Kloves. Odeon Haymarket (01-639 7697). From Fri.

DANCE

RAMBERT DANCE COMPANY: Three week London season opens with special children's gala (Tues); then Wed-Sat Mar 10 the London premiere of Merce Cunningham's *Doubles* with Ashley Page's *Soldat*. Sadler's Wells (01-278 8916).

ROYAL BALLET: Kenneth MacMillan's new *Prince of the Pagodas* twice today at Birmingham Hippodrome (021 622 7488); then Thurs-Sat Mar 10 at the Palace, Manchester (061-236 9922).

LONDON CONTEMPORARY DANCE THEATRE: Premieres by Dan Wagoner (Mon, Tues) and Kenneth Thorp (Tues matinee) at Dorngate, Northampton (0804 24811).

ENGLISH NATIONAL BALLET: Tour of small theatres with programme by Paul Taylor, August Bournonville, Jose Limon and others continues to Northcott Theatre, Exeter (0392-64853) today. Wyvern Theatre, Swindon (0793 524481), Mon, Tues, and Festival Theatre, Malvern (0684-892277), Fri and Sat Mar 10.

ROCK

THE HOUSE OF LOVE: Nonpareil cult heroes of the indie scene now elevated to the major league. SFX, Dublin (0001 740550) tonight; Guildhall, Southampton (0703 632001) Mon; then Folkestone, Cardiff, and Royal Albert Hall (Fri).

EVERYTHING BUT THE GIRL: Shrinking violets Ben Watt and Tracy Thorn whose music has recently acquired a hushed, American super club sound. Royal Centre, Nottingham (0602 483505) tomorrow; Colston Hall, Bristol (0272 262957) Mon; then Guildford and Harrogate.

WILL DOWNING: Full-throated soul man best known for his manicured rendering of "A Love Supreme". St David's Hall, Cardiff (0222 371226) tonight; Hull, Stockton (0842 811082) tomorrow; then Cambridge, Manchester and Hammersmith Odeon (Thurs).

THE MISSION: Wayne Hussey and crew still trying to recreate the zeitgeist of the pre-punk 1970s. Royal Court, Liverpool (051 703 4321) tomorrow; then Dublin, Belfast and Glasgow.

CINEMA

GEOFF BROWN

Romancing the Stone and its sequel, signed on as Barbara and Oliver Rose: players well-equipped to handle the film's volatile mixture of glamour, vindictiveness and physical thrills. The project obviously required a director with a hugely warped sense of humour. Who better, then, than Danny DeVito, pugacious actor and perpetrator of *Throw Momma From the Train*? (He also appears as Douglas's divorce lawyer.) This exhausting comic version of marital hell has been a huge box-office hit in America: so much for President Bush's pre-election pledge to promote "family values". Odeon Leicester Square (01-930 6111), from Friday, certificate 15.

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OPERA

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: Götz Friedrich's new production of Strauss' *Elektra* opens tonight at 8pm (also Wed) with Sir Georg Solti conducting a cast led by Eva Marton singing the title role for the first time at Covent Garden. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: *Seviziotti of The Mikado* and *Il trovatore* alternate throughout this month; tonight, Tues and Fri, Helen Field leads the Verdi cast; on Wed, Thurs and Sat Mar 10, Jonathan Miller's *G & S* production continues. Coliseum, St Martins Lane, London WC2 (01-536 3161).

WELSH NATIONAL OPERA: New production of *Der Rosenkavalier* by Wolfgang Welser opens in Cardiff tonight (also Tues). New Theatre, Cardiff (0222 394844).

OPERA NORTHERN IRELAND: Open their first ever spring season with a new production of *Die Fledermaus*. Grand Opera House, Belfast (0232 240411).

CONCERTS

MELOS 25th: The Melos Quartet celebrates its 25th anniversary by playing Schubert's Quartet D 810 "Death and the Maiden", then Schubert's Quartet D 958, with Mstislav Rostropovich (cello). Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 8800). Mon.

NEW SCHMITTKE: Yuri Bashmet conducts and solos in the UK premiere of Schmittke's Monologue for Viola and Strings, to which are added his Concerto Grosso No. 1, Shostakovich's Prelude and Scherzo Op. 11 and Matlier's orchestration of Schubert's Quartet D 810 "Death and the Maiden". Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 8891). Mon.

THREE QUARTETS: The Yeasey Quartet performs Mozart's Quartet K 458 "The Hunt", Beethoven's Quartet Op. 59 No. 2 and Webern's Quartet Op. 28. Wigmore Hall, 36, Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 2141). Wed.

ITALIAN SONGS: Lydia Russell (soprano) and Richard Jackson (baritone), with Iain Burnside at the piano, sing Hugo Wolf's complete *Italianisches Liederbuch*. St John's Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1061). Thurs.

RATTLE/CSSO: The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra is conducted by Simon Rattle in Bach's Concerto for Two Violins, Beethoven's Symphony No. 7, Schoenberg's *Verklärte Nacht* and Webern's *Five Pieces Op. 10*. Town Hall, Birmingham (021-236 3888). Thurs.

ROSTROPOVICH/LSO: Mstislav Rostropovich conducts the LSO in Berlioz's *La Coraire Overture*, Schmittke's Viola Concerto and Shostakovich's Symphony No. 3. Barbican Centre, Thurs.

PHOTOGRAPHY

IN OUR TIME: Blockbuster exhibition by members of the legendary photographic agency, Magnum, which charts the course of the world through wars, famines, pestilence and politics, and disasters both man-made and natural. 1947 to the present day. Hayward Gallery, South Bank Centre, London, SE1. (01-521 0879). From Thurs.

ELLIOTT ERWITT: A good counterpoint to the above from Magnum photographer Erwit, whose view of life is nearly always spiced with a delicious and delicate touch of humour. Hamiltons Gallery, 13 Carlos Place, London, W1 (01-499 9493). From Wed.

BROADCASTING

CHANCER: Shades of *Capital City* and *Howard's Way* as a young city slicker (Clive Owen) is called in to rescue an ailing sports car company. Benjamin Whitrow and Leslie Phillips lend sturdy support. ITV, Tues, 8-10pm.

THE CHURCHILL YEARS: Six turning-points from the career of Winston Churchill, dramatized by David Wheeler and with Daniel Massey doubling as Winston and his formidable father Lord Randolph Churchill. Radio 4, Wed, 11-11.47am.

HIGH NOON: Gary Cooper and Grace Kelly in Fred Zinnemann's tale Western about a town marshal abandoned by the community and forced to face the villains alone. Preceded (8.30pm) by an Arena profile of Zinnemann, who gave a first screen chance to Marlon Brando, Montgomery Clift and Meryl Streep. BBC2, Fri, 11.20pm-12.45am.



In fine fettle: the irrepressible Ella Fitzgerald heads back to London

JAZZ

CLIVE DAVIS

HARRY EDISON: One of the trumpet greats, the elegant Basile soloist plays the avenging with the Tony Kinsey Trio. Piazza Express, London W1 (01-439 8722). Wed-Sat.

EDDIE HARRIS: The Chicago-born tenor player, an early pioneer of fusion music, now gravitating back towards conventional pop.

The glitzy Annie Leibovitz shots which graced a certain colour supplement last Sunday showed that Ella Fitzgerald appears to be back to full fitness after serious illness. Audiences will have a chance to see for themselves this week when she makes her return to the London stage, backed by the Count Basie Orchestra. Her three concerts (Grosvenor House, Mon; Royal Albert Hall, Wed, Thurs) are part of the launch celebrations for Jazz FM, which, as everyone must know by now, goes on air in the Greater London region tomorrow as the first no-pirate jazz radio station in the UK. Ella's appearance at the Grosvenor House is an exclusive affair — tickets for the gala dinner cost a mere £150. It is worth remembering, however, that these are likely to be her farewell performances in this country. The Basie orchestra itself has soldiered on since the death of its leader six years ago. Now under the direction of the tenor player Frank Foster, the band boasts few legendary names but can still summon up the old ghosts in concert. Grosvenor House, London W1 (info 01-370 4515) Monday; Royal Albert Hall, London SW7 (01-589 8212/497-9977/494 3161). Wednesday, Thursday.

CHESS

Next week the Candidates final match between the former world champion Anatoly Karpov (USSR) and the Dutch Grandmaster Jeroen Timman will start in Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia. It will be remembered that this match, the winner of which will challenge Karpov for the world title, was originally planned for London, organized by the British Chess Federation. Unfortunately, Pilkington Glass, the prospective sponsor, withdrew their support. *The Times* will carry the moves and results of every game.

Karpov, meanwhile, has been sharpening his weapons for any prospective challenge by participating in the top notch category 16 tournament in the Spanish town of Linares. The final round is played today and this week's game between the world champion and the highest rated British Grandmaster was one of the most exciting in the early rounds.

White: Garry Kasparov; Black: Nigel Short. English Opening. Feb 19, Linares.

1 e4 e5 2 Nc3 Nc6 3 g3 g6 4 Bg2 Bg7 5 c3 c6 6 d4

White should play 11 Bxh3 Qxh3 12 d5. After the text Black can start a dangerous attack.

A bold decision, declaring total war against the White king. Instead 15...0-0 would be quite level. Now a fierce race

develops on opposite wings.

An inspired sacrifice which Kasparov claimed was necessary to maintain fighting chances. It is a measure of the extreme difficulty of this game that when he played the sacrifice Kasparov had a mere six minutes left to complete his next 20 moves in order to avoid losing by time forfeit.

If 21...Nc4 22 Nxd4 Qxd4 23 Qf7.

24 Nd1 Qd8 25 Nd3 Rd1 26 Qd1 Nf7 27 Nd5 Qd8 28 Qd3 Qd7 29 Nd6 Qd8

Most players would now have contented themselves with 28 Bxc5. Instead Kasparov, with both players on the precipice of losing by time forfeit, finds a fresh sacrifice which huris the position into utter confusion.

Solution to last Saturday's competition: 1 Nf7+ Rf1 2 Qc7 Rf1 3 Rf1 4 Rf1 5 Rf1 6 Rf1 7 Rf1 8 Rf1 9 Rf1 10 Rf1 11 Rf1 12 Rf1 13 Rf1 14 Rf1 15 Rf1 16 Rf1 17 Rf1 18 Rf1 19 Rf1 20 Rf1

In the scramble to make 40 moves, Nigel Short overlooks that the simple 39...Bf8 leaves White with nothing better than to steer for a draw with 40 Ra8 repeating the position. The text distances Black's

knight from White's dangerous passed "a" pawn.

So great was the confusion after the rush to reach the time control that the tournament officials here erroneously announced that Black had lost on time, a statement which they soon had to retract. Nevertheless, Black's 41st is the losing error after which he can no longer prevent the coronation of White's "a" pawn. 41...Kd5 would have retained drawing chances.

White plays and wins.

Send your answer on a postcard with your name and address to: *The Times* Chess Competition, The Times, 1, Pall Mall, London W1Y 6PU. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday next week will win a Times edition personal chess computer. The winning move will be printed in *The Times* next Saturday.

Solution to yesterday's position: 1 Nf7+ Rf1 2 Qc7 Rf1 3 Rf1 4 Rf1 5 Rf1 6 Rf1 7 Rf1 8 Rf1 9 Rf1 10 Rf1 11 Rf1 12 Rf1 13 Rf1 14 Rf1 15 Rf1 16 Rf1 17 Rf1 18 Rf1 19 Rf1 20 Rf1

Solution to last Saturday's competition: 1 Nf7+ Rf1 2 Qc7 Rf1 3 Rf1 4 Rf1 5 Rf1 6 Rf1 7 Rf1 8 Rf1 9 Rf1 10 Rf1 11 Rf1 12 Rf1 13 Rf1 14 Rf1 15 Rf1 16 Rf1 17 Rf1 18 Rf1 19 Rf1 20 Rf1

The three winners of *The Times* personal chess computers are: Mr R.T. Reed, Abingdon; Mr J. Hargreaves, Basingstoke; Mr A.D. Henderson, Basingstoke.

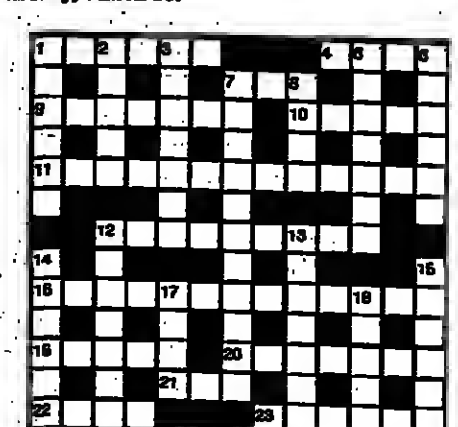
Raymond Keene

CROSSWORD

CONCISE NO 2117

Prizes of the Collins Concise Dictionary will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, March 8. Entries should be addressed to: *The Times* Concise Crossword Competition, 1, Pennington Street, London, E1 6RN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, March 10.

ACROSS
1 Ragamuffin (6)
4 N Israel Crusades (6)
7 Shade (3)
9 Filigree (7)
10 "Diamonds" (5)
11 Bernstein Romeo and Juliet (4,4,5)
12 Sprayed (9)
15 Take effect (4,4,5)
19 Prod (5)
20 Play over again (2-5)
21 Married woman title (3)
22 "American" (4)
23 Shun (6)



DOWN
1 Crazy (6)
2 Hazards (5)
3 Shudder, thrill (7)
5 Husband of adulteress (7)
6 Disastrations (6-7)
7 Recruit soldiers (4-7)
8 Pictorial chess game (4)
12 Mission last month (7)
13 Treasure chest (7)
14 Spouse (6)
15 Confide (6)
17 As cited (4)
18 Active at (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 2116
ACROSS: 8 Marmite 9 Arrow 10 Zoo 11 Acquittal 12 Down 14 Paralytic 15 Doe 17 Orphan 18 Dorset 20 Pianos 21 Locate 23 Lode

DOWN: 1 Amazed 2 Adjoin 3 Plaster 4 Marquis de Sade 5 Taint 6 Craze 7 Swell 12 Colosseum 16 Optician 19 Tiber 20 Twister 23 Lode

SOLUTIONS TO NO 2111 (last Saturday's prize concise)
ACROSS: 1 Sadist 4 Numb 7 Elk 9 Eniven 10 Italy 11 Paterfamilias 12 Colosseum 16 Optician 19 Tiber 20 Twister 21 Doe 22 Munt 23 Sated

DOWN: 1 Sloop 2 Delft 3 Sevens 5 Uranium 6 Boyish 7 Escapade 8 Kivi 12 Colapit 13 Emotion 14 Bottom 15 Hybrid

Name: _____ Address: _____

Marshall the key to West Indian reaction

From Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent
Kingston, Jamaica

After the revolution comes the reckoning. The established order has been spectacularly overturned in one of cricket's more surprising weeks, but even the conquering England side, justly basking in imagined glory, must know that power does not change hands without dispute.

If they are entitled to fear with justification, England have already succeeded where many previous touring sides have failed, obliging West Indies to analyse what they had come to take for granted. When one has exhausted all the accolades for England's cricket during the first Test, giving due credit to Gooch's captaincy, Lamb's batting and the rare discipline of the four bowlers, it has to be admitted that something went very wrong with West Indies.

Whether it was arrogance, complacency or simply a con-

stant lapse, this was a great team playing unaccountably poorly. It goes without saying that they are capable of very much better but specific areas of their game must be causing acute anxiety.

In all their years of dominating world cricket, West Indies' game plan has assumed certain dependable factors. They have had the best opening pair in Greenidge and Haynes, they have had sane, quality

triumphant players back into the nets with the exhortation to forget yesterday's news and concentrate only on tomorrow.

"The less experienced players become the longer it takes them to learn that what is done is done," Stewart said. "It takes them some while to come down to earth."

"We told them when the Test ended to make the most of the moment and enjoy it. It was a great experience for us

all but that was yesterday. It's history now — the important game is always tomorrow. When you have a bit of success it does wonders for the players but it is vital to keep it going and try to make winning a habit."

To that end, there is no question of England using today's game as a chance to reacquaint Bailey and Maddy with match conditions. Indeed, both men must be wondering if, rather than when, they will resume

an active role on this tour.

England, having digested many congratulatory calls and cables yesterday, will revert to their one-day mode, choosing Hemmings instead of Hussain and replacing Malcolm with either DeFreitas or Lewis.

WEST INDIES (captain V A Richards): G G Greenidge, O C Haynes, R B Richardson, G I Hooper, D A Seal, R L T Arthurson, P J Dujon, E A Moseley, M O Marshall, C A Watson, I H Bishop, E A E Baptiste.

ENGLAND (captain G A Gooch): Gooch, W Laker, A Stewart, A J Lamb, R A Snell, D J Capel, R C Russell, E E Hemmings, C G Lewis, P A J DeFreitas, G G Smith, A R C Fraser.

and openly admits he has little time left at this level but if West Indies are to respond to this unexpected challenge they must have a properly fit and motivated Marshall to help them.

The other critical area is the middle-order batting, already suffering from the absence of Gooch and now confounded by Richardson's insistence on going in as low as No. 6.

Logie has been a thorn in England's side on many occasions, stabilizing his team whenever the cavalier instincts of the top order led them into difficulties. His broken finger will keep him out until the third Test at least and in his absence Richardson has plainly nominated himself as the shepherd of a suddenly vulnerable flock.

Richardson did himself no justice here, playing with scant regard for the circumstances. Best looks short of class if high on determination; Hooper suffers from quite the reverse. There is every danger,

unless the openers last longer than they did here, of Richards strolling out to perform a rescue act, unable to express himself in the way he needs to do.

West Indies have named an unchanged 13 for next week's second Test in Georgetown, Guyana, but two changes to the final team can be anticipated.

David Gower: If I were Vivian Richards, page 37
More cricket 53



TRAVEL

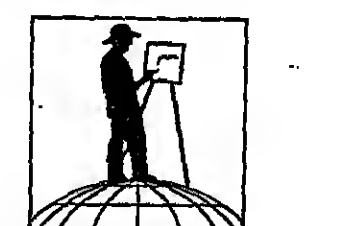
LAST STOP BEFORE ANTARCTICA

Despite its remoteness, Patagonia welcomes tourists. Michael Watkins took a cruise south from Buenos Aires to keep company with many thousands of penguins and to take tea with members of the Welsh community which has survived so far from home since 1865. Page 63

CRICKET LOVER'S GUIDE

England's win in the first Test might encourage more people to take a Caribbean holiday to coincide with the other matches. James Henderson and Brian Viner have visited Guyana and the three islands which host the important games. Page 59

THE ART OF TRAVEL



In our series on activity holidays, Robin Neillands describes the choices available to painters. Packages, including tuition if required, are assessed in this country and in several countries abroad. Page 62

Scots canny over Welsh visit

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

Scotland have learnt during the last decade not to fear Cardiff Arms Park. Respect for the Welsh remains but in five visits Scotland have won twice and lost two of the other games by the merest handful of points. Today, though, they approach their third five nations championship match of the season in a state of uncertainty.

That is caused not by their own record this season: unbeaten, though not in the most convincing manner, against Ireland and France. But they, like the rest of us, do not quite know what to expect. "I'm always wary of anyone who says the Welsh are in decline," Ian McGeechan, the Scottish coach, said. "Rugby is such a passion for them. They are not far away from being a very strong side."

Victory in Cardiff for the Scots would create a marvellous atmosphere at Murrayfield on March 17, because they would then play a similarly unbeaten England for the grand slam. But McGeechan is far too canny to think further ahead than four o'clock this afternoon, when a further perspective can be added to the extraordinary events of the last fortnight.

History's successful military commanders have always laid prepared positions to which to retreat in times of stress, and from which they can rally forth refreshed; the Welsh Rugby Union over the last decade can scarcely be likened to a Wellington or Marlborough but, coincidentally, Neath have given them a fall-back position.

It is not so much that Neath's seven players may reduce in the colours of Wales as the trick which has been worked of creating a

TODAY'S TEAMS AT CARDIFF

Wales			
P H Thorburn	15	Full back	(Cardiff)
M R Hall	14	Right wing	(Cardiff)
M G Ring	13	Right centre	(Cardiff)
A G Bateman	12	Left centre	(Neath)
A Emyr	11	Left wing	(Swansea)
D W Evans	10	Stand off	(Cardiff)
R N Jones	9	Scrum half	(Swansea)
B R Williams	1	Prop	(Neath)
K H Phillips	2	Hooker	(Neath)
J D Pugh	3	Prop	(Neath)
M A Parago	6	Flanker	(Llanelli)
P T Davies	4	Lock	(Llanelli)
G O Llewellyn	5	Lock	(Neath)
R G Collins	7	Flanker	(Cardiff)
M A Jones	8	No 8	(Neath)

Reference: R Hourquet (France)
REPLACEMENTS: 16 P W Dods (Cardiff), 17 A Cunniff (Swansea), 18 C J Davies (Neath), 19 R Williams-Jones (South Wales Police), 20 J J Watkins (Cardiff), 21 R Phillips (Neath)

Scotland			
A G Hastings	15	(London Scottish)	
A G Stanger	14	(Glasgow)	
S Hastings	13	(Glasgow)	
S R P Lineen	12	(Boroughmuir)	
I Tulalo	11	(Edinburgh)	
C M Chalmers	10	(Melrose)	
G Armstrong	9	(Jed-Forest)	
D M B Sole	1	(Edinburgh Academicals)	
K S Milne	2	(Glasgow)	
A P Bennett	3	(London Scottish)	
J Jeffrey	6	(Kelso)	
C A Gray	4	(Nottingham)	
D F Cronin	5	(Bath)	
F Calder	7	(Stewart's Melville)	
D B White	8	(London Scottish)	

REPLACEMENTS: 16 P W Dods (Cardiff), 17 A Cunniff (Swansea), 18 C J Davies (Neath), 19 R Williams-Jones (South Wales Police), 20 J J Watkins (Cardiff), 21 R Phillips (Neath)

Championship table

	P	W	D	L	Pts
England	3	3	0	0	18
Scotland	3	2	0	1	12
France	3	1	0	2	6
Wales	3	0	2	1	2
Ireland	3	0	2	1	2

France in Cardiff after a mediocre decade of 18 victories in 40 championship matches. Neath's success as a club unit, allied to the appointment — forced though it was — of their own man, Ron Waldron, as the national coach, have caused a nation to look forward rather than gloomily mourning over the record defeat by England. Perhaps that was inevitable: there was, after all, every reason to forget the past and look to the future.

But Neath offer the Welsh a positive element to which to sense of optimism and a new beginning from the dire circumstances of Twickenham, February 17 — which itself followed defeat by

France in Cardiff after a mediocre decade of 18 victories in 40 championship matches. Neath's success as a club unit, allied to the appointment — forced though it was — of their own man, Ron Waldron, as the national coach, have caused a nation to look forward rather than gloomily mourning over the record defeat by England. Perhaps that was inevitable: there was, after all, every reason to forget the past and look to the future.

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A word in the ear of the new coach: Waldron (left) listens to what his flank forward, Collins, has to say about today's match

clinging, a surging, fluid, hard-headed style which is precisely how the Scots themselves play but with doubtless be given full rein by Rene Hourquet, the French referee. Neither team sets overmuch store by the set scrum, nor does it possess the largest of lineout men. But every player in the team contributes and supports in a method which is like a snoudering fire, no sooner quelled in one place than it bursts out in another.

There is no guarantee that what has worked for Neath will work for Wales, because the method has been diluted by the presence of other players accustomed to other ways. But at this moment the possibility that it will work is enough.

"Look at some of the club games in Wales and the way they play at that level," McGeechan warned. "Seven of them are used to playing together for Neath — they will be doing it in a red shirt rather than a black one."

On the face of it, all the advantages lie with Scotland in this 94th match between the countries, save for the fact that they are away from home — but then, three of this season's six championship matches have been won away. The same team has done duty this year and most of it was together last season, which engenders a mutual confidence and esteem.

Allied to that is the experience garnered by eight of them with the British Isles in Australia; if only there were not this nagging feeling that the Welsh are due to come up trumps today (English cricket, after all, suggests it is a week for surprises). For the first time in a couple of seasons, the back row has a better-balanced look to it, though Mark Perago, the Liverpool fireman, will have to come swiftly to terms with the pace of international rugby in an area where Finlay Calder, Derek White and John Jeffrey have competed together so many times.

Phil Davies has been moved to lock, though I suspect he may have more rugby knowledge to apply at No. 8 than Mark Jones and his powerful, near-18st frame could be more easily launched into the opposition midfield. It is time, too, for the talented Welsh backs to take a hand, if someone will only give them some decent possession.

Both David Evans and Mark Ring have the ability to weave elusive patterns in attack, and they will want to bring Allan Bateman, the new centre, into the scheme of things as soon as practicable.

They offer more traditional skills of craft than Sean Lineen and Scott Hastings, centres in the modern mould whose greatest strength is, well, their strength. Perhaps it is an omen that the match is sponsored by British Coal: apart from the fact that their product is as black as the jerseys of Neath, they also symbolise a traditional feature of Welsh life. The mines have been closing for some years now but maybe Neath will provide the opening of a new door for Welsh rugby.

More rugby, page 50

Cooke concentrates on English game

By Peter Bills

Jeff Cooke, the England team manager, whose players and the five nations' championship table this morning, is far from convinced that his team's 34-6 annihilation of Wales will extend depression to the valleys.

"I think Scotland will find it very difficult indeed to win in Cardiff," he said. "Wales are likely to react to that heavy defeat with a great deal of pride and commitment. The presence of a new coach can only enhance those virtues."

"All Wales, and the new man in charge, will be desperately keen to make a big impact. I expect the whole Welsh nation will get behind them."

The power of positive thought, which has been the

foundation of England's renaissance this season, is underlined by Cooke's attitude to Scotland, now the only team between his side and a grand slam.

"We really do not mind whether Scotland win in Cardiff or not. In a sense, it would create a marvellous finale to the championship, with both teams in with an opportunity

of the grand slam.

"But our approach will be the same as in the other games. We have concentrated all through on getting our own game right, working on perfecting the pattern we wish to play. It is no disrespect to the opposition to say that we have worked more on our game than paid undue attention to other teams' plans."

Linford Christie, Britain's fastest ever sprinter, was keeping officials guessing yesterday over whether or not he would appear in the two-day European athletics championships at the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, this weekend.

Christie, who indicated last weekend that he would not compete, flew in from London last night to say: "If I want to run, I'll run."

Only a handful of British athletes who appeared in the Commonwealth Games a month ago have made themselves available for these championships, the first time they have been held in Britain. Christie said that he and Ron Roddan, his coach, would make their decision this morning.

After competing for Britain against East Germany at the same venue eight days ago, Christie complained of the softness of the track and gave the impression that he had no interest in running either the 60 metres or 200m this weekend. His name was nevertheless

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Taylor looking to strengthen side

By Dennis Shaw

Graham Taylor, manager of Aston Villa, the leaders of the first division, admitted last night he is still looking to strengthen his squad before this month's transfer deadline. "I have been trying to sign players all season, but those I want are not available at the right price," he said.

"I will continue to search for what I'm looking for, but, if nothing materializes, I am not going to be pressurized by the deadline. The players I have got have been good enough to get us to the top of the table, and I would be more than happy to leave things in their hands."

Underlining that, Taylor has selected an unchanged side, despite last week's surprising 3-0 home defeat by Wimbledon, for the match with Coventry City tomorrow.

But the television audience, wishing to assess the true calibre of the Villa team, is hoping to see the championship crown for the second successive year will be a sceptical television audience.

Beyond Villa's immediate supporters, few around the country now believe that the admirable team fashioned by Taylor can stay the full distance.

The game at Highfield Road will not provide the answer, either way, but it will give important evidence of Villa's heart for the heat of the battle. "If I were one of the neutrals, I would probably be backing Liverpool myself," Taylor confessed.

Defeat by Wimbledon is the immediate form guide, and the popular reading of that trauma was Villa had blown it.

First division leaders

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Aston Villa	26	14	4	8	48	24	32
Liverpool	26	13	5	8	46	26	31
Nottingham Forest	26	13	4	9	45	28	30
Sheff Wed	26	12	5	9	42	30	29
Sheff Utd	26	12	4	10	40	32	28
Coventry	26	11	5	10	38	34	27
Derby	26	11	4	11	36	36	26
Wolves	26	10	6	10	34	38	26
QPR	26	10	5	11	32	40	25
Millwall	26	9	7	10	30	42	25
Sheff F	26	9	6	11	28	44	24
Wimbledon	26	8	8	10	26	46	24
Blackburn	26	8	7	11	24	48	23
Leeds	26	7	9	10	22	50	23
Sheff B	26	7	8	11	20	52	22
Cardiff	26	6	10	10	18	54	22
Sheff T	26	6	9	11	16	56	21
Watford	26	6	8	12	14	58	20
Leicester	26	5	11	10	12	60	20
Sheff P	26	5	10	11	10	62	19
Millwall	26	5	9	12	8	64	18
Sheff A	26	4	11	11	6	66	17
Sheff C	26	4	10	12	4	68	16
Sheff D	26	3	12	11	2	70	15
Sheff E	26	3	11	12	0	72	14
Sheff F	26	3	10	13	0	74	13
Sheff G	26	3	9	14	0	76	12
Sheff H	26	3	8	15	0	78	11
Sheff I	26	3	7	16	0	80	10
Sheff J	26	3	6	17	0	82	9
Sheff K	26	3	5	18	0	84	8
Sheff L	26	3	4	19	0	86	7
Sheff M	26	3	3	20	0	88	6
Sheff N	26	3	2	21	0	90	5
Sheff O	26	3	1	22	0	92	4
Sheff P	26	3	0	23	0	94	3
Sheff Q	26	3	0	24	0	96	2
Sheff R	26	3	0	25	0	98	1
Sheff S	26	3	0	26	0	100	0

Bluntly, when a five-point lead over inactive Liverpool beckoned, they lost their nerve and their way, succumbing to a side whose recent credentials are mediocre.

Such an assessment, however, disregards all the build-up of form, confidence and the winning knack, as Villa accumulated 46 points from 57—a remarkable sequence dating back to mid-September. Early in that run, Villa earned an army of new admirers with their televised 6-2 victory over Everton at Villa Park.

One of them was John Sillett, the Coventry manager. "I've been more than impressed with this season," he said. "The Wimbledon defeat was a one-off. But this is the ideal match to get my lads going, too."

Sillett's season was wrecked by Nottingham Forest's dogged refusal to be removed from their Littlewoods Cup defence at the penultimate stage. Now, Coventry must flex their muscles in an attempt to climb as high as possible in the table, while purging their system of the belief that refereeing decisions deprived them of a Wembley visit.

Coventry include Waugh, the reserve goalkeeper, in their squad, and also Billing, a defender, to cover for Ogilvie and Kilmene, who have injury problems.



Nor iron bars a cage... Pearson has an escape plan for the club with its back to the wall

Pearson under no illusions

By Dennis Signy

Bob Pearson, promoted to manager of Millwall from the club's back-room staff—in the last Liverpool tradition—appreciates the difficulty of trying to keep the club in the first division, particularly since it visits Anfield today.

Despite having no coaching experience, the chief scout was chosen to replace John Docherty as manager two and a half weeks ago by Reg Burr, the Millwall chairman, because he was a motivational man. Yet Pearson reckons that today's match does not require that expertise.

"Millwall should not need motivating at Liverpool," Pearson said yesterday. "To play at Anfield is second only to Wembley. If we are going to start a revival, there is no better place to start. I will tell them to go out and play the football that we want, and to go out and win. I don't want to let Mr. Delish know too much," he joked.

The Millwall players will not even know until this morning how they are doing. The English footballers have shown in the West Indies this week that anything is possible in sport, but all I am asking from them is to give a good account of themselves.

In order to restore confidence, Pearson, aged 50, who gave up being a manager more than 20 years ago when Tommy Docherty offered him a part-time role as a schoolboy scout at Queen's Park Rangers, has served 14 managers. He knows the dangers of moving into the managerial seat—Docherty left Rangers the day he was appointed.

Pearson knows that the Liverpool policy of promoting from within the ranks achieved success when Bob Paisley and then Joe Fagan succeeded the late Bill Shankly, but he will not be among his idols," he said. Pearson is equally respectful of today's Liverpool manager, who he decides to announce his line-up. "I don't want to let Mr. Delish know too much," he joked.

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means that Millwall may have to change their minds about playing the sweeper system and stay with four defenders and a winger.

The influential Terry Hurlock is under suspension and Gary Waddock and Keith Stevens are injured, so Pearson is likely to give Wesley Reid, aged 20, whom he snapped up on a free transfer from Arsenal released last year, his second League game. "A diamond" is Pearson's assessment of a youngster who involves himself in Millwall's community work and coaches in local schools.

After two defeats in his initial games, at Coventry City and at home to Queens Park Rangers, Pearson warns that the time is ripe for change. His chairman agreed this week to give him money to bring in replacements. "I will do anything to keep Millwall up," he said. "If that means buying and selling, that is what I will do, and perhaps now is the time to do it."

Millwall spent three days relaxing at a four-star hotel near Bournemouth early this week to "recharge the batteries". Pearson felt that training in a fresh environment would get the players' minds off the League position.

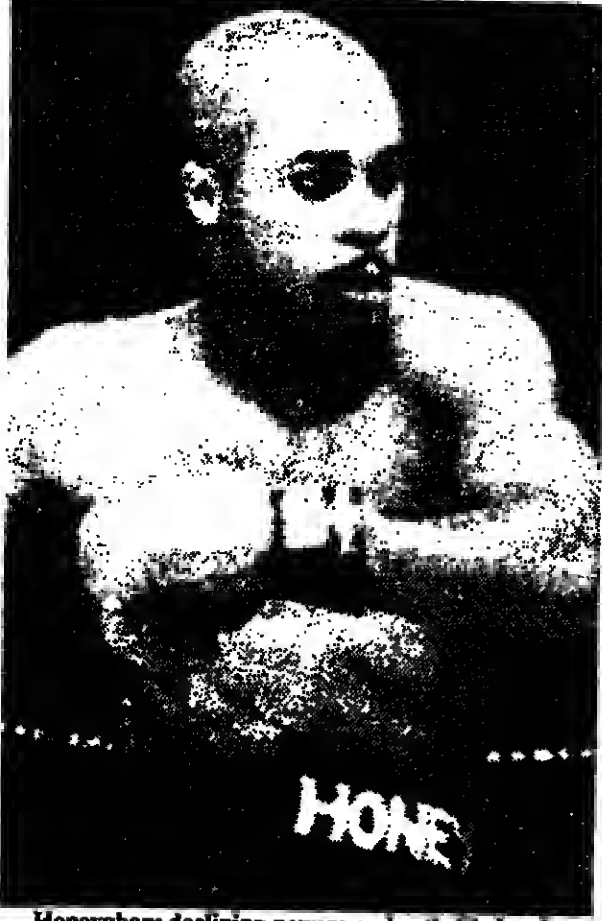
"One of the course markers sent us down what we found out too late to be train tracks," Chamez said. "There were other snowmobile tracks on the trail, so we thought we had gone the right way. A kilometre or so down the trail, Isobel's machine got stuck, and Rhoda and I got off to help her shift it. It was then that we realised that we were on a rail track."

Fifth overall, after four times stages, is the team of the former grand prix driver, Patrick Tambay. "This race gets better by the day," he said. "We used a rest day to change the suspension on a few of our cars, but we just rested in anticipation of the second half of the race."

LEADING POSITIONS: 1. Michael Schumacher, 2. Stefan Johansson, 3. Nigel Mansell, 4. Ayrton Senna, 5. Gerhard Berger, 6. Riccardo Patton, 7. Martin Donnelly, 8. Mark Blundell, 9. Andrea Montermini, 10. Roberto Benetton, 11. Thierry Boutsien, 12. Aguri Suzuki, 13. Olivier Beretta, 14. Jean-Marie Gonneville, 15. Alex Zanardi, 16. Luca Badoer, 17. Alessandro Nannini, 18. Gabriele Tarquini, 19. Pierluigi Martini, 20. Paolo Riccio, 21. Roberto Moreno, 22. Stefano Modena, 23. Pierluigi Belli, 24. Gabriele Toso, 25. Luca Badoer, 26. Alessandro Nannini, 27. Pierluigi Martini, 28. Paolo Riccio, 29. Roberto Moreno, 30. Stefano Modena, 31. Pierluigi Belli, 32. Gabriele Toso, 33. Luca Badoer, 34. Alessandro Nannini, 35. Pierluigi Martini, 36. Paolo Riccio, 37. Roberto Moreno, 38. Stefano Modena, 39. Pierluigi Belli, 40. Gabriele Toso, 41. Luca Badoer, 42. Alessandro Nannini, 43. Pierluigi Martini, 44. Paolo Riccio, 45. Roberto Moreno, 46. Stefano Modena, 47. Pierluigi Belli, 48. Gabriele Toso, 49. 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BOXING: HONEYGHAN FACES THE FATE OF EITHER BEING BUSTED UP TRYING TO BOX OR DUSTED UP TRYING TO FIGHT IN TONIGHT'S WORLD TITLE CHALLENGE

Starling the key to a chirpy Honeyghan



Honeyghan: declining powers and arthritic hands

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

When a strike-bound Calcutta Tramways Company was besieged by an irate public, the company asked the city's police commissioner what it should do. The commissioner replied: "Your choice is simple. You must decide where you want the tram to burst. In the streets or in the depot?"

While this is not to suggest that CTC conditions obtain on the Northern Line of the London Underground, it has certain similarities with the choice before Lloyd Honeyghan when he challenges Mark Breland, the World Boxing Association welterweight champion, at Wembley Arena tonight.

Because of Honeyghan's declining powers and arthritic hands, he can be "busted up" trying to box or "dusted up" trying to fight. But unlike the police commissioner's old pros, whether in trackside or expensive afterwards, will tell Honeyghan: "Styles make fights. If you haven't got the style to beat an opponent, go out and get one."

If Honeyghan wants to have any chance of being the first Briton to win a world title

Tale of the tape

Honeyghan	Breland
Age 28	26
Height 5ft 7in	5ft 7in
Weight 135lb	135lb
Reach 70in	70in
Stance Orthodox	Orthodox
Boxing style Forward	Forward
Trainer Joe Fariello	Joe Fariello
Manager Michael Watson	Michael Watson
Record 11-0-0	11-0-0
Wins 11	11
Draws 0	0
Losses 0	0

Honeyghan: 11-0-0; Breland: 11-0-0

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SPORTS BOOK OF THE WEEK

Batting in a boundless field

The pursuit of cricket memorabilia, once a genteel hobby, has mushroomed in the past decade. Marcus Williams and Gordon Phillips trace the growth in interest and the discovery of some historic pieces.

Cricket memorabilia may be broadly defined as any object connected with this most English of games, be it 18th-century book or woodwormed bat, cigarette card or postcard, panoramic painting or polychrome print, 78rpm gramophone record or jam maker's golly badge, cherished autograph album or yellowing scrapbook, new-fangled video cassette or computer game, an abdominal protective box — yes, one of these did appear at auction — or a chunk of masonry from the perimeter wall at The Oval. In fact, the subject is almost boundless. Every one of the items is collectable, and collected by devotees, and though the appeal of some items may be too personal or esoteric for others, there exists a ready and established market for just about anything associated with cricket.

Material can turn up in the most unlikely places, although some leads can prove to be, almost literally, red herrings: more than one cricket collector has been seduced by a book entitled *A Summer on the Test, 1930* — only to discover that it is about fishing. However, examples of two unlikely but genuine sources can well illustrate the point: the first involves militant women, the second rubbish, and both stories also prove that the thrill of making a new discovery is far from lost.

It was a casual remark by John Kennedy Melting, an historian and critic (though not of cricket), which revealed that he did in fact own one item connected with the game.

It was a ball — could it be one with which Botham or Trueman performed great deeds, perhaps? No, older than that — used by Bedser, maybe, or Laker?

No, earlier — Tate, Verity, Freeman?

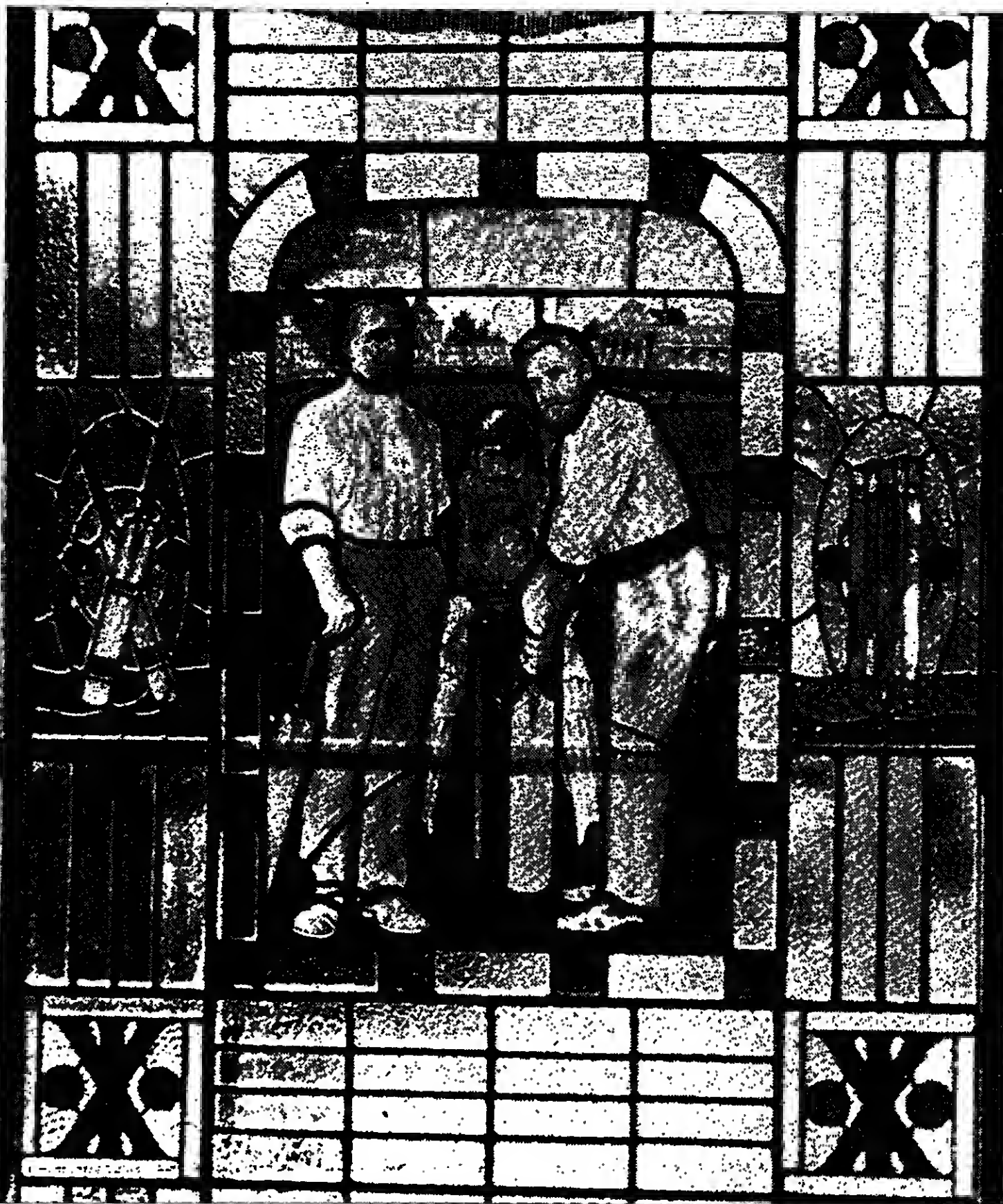
No, before the First World War — Barnes, Rhodes, Richardson? No, delivered by a female arm — female arm? Perhaps one of the Original English Lady Cricketers, who were championed around the country playing games of a strictly sporting nature in the 1890s? One of those special blue cricket balls once developed for the women's game and on display at Lord's?

Still no. And so he unfolded the tale. The ball had found its way into Melting's possession nearly 20 years earlier. He was given it by a former Alderman of Essex County Council, Miriam Eileen Edwards, who had inherited it from her father. He was Superintendent Wilcox of the Metropolitan Police, whose face, beneath his flat cap, became familiar as the officer who regularly arrested Emmeline Pankhurst during the struggles of the Suffragettes. (Wilcox carried out his duty, apparently, in a most gentlemanly way, telephoning Mrs Pankhurst first to say that he was on his way.) On May 21, 1914 the campaigners' order of the day was a window-smashing protest to

Whitehall. While Mrs Higginson used as ammunition stones collected in Southend — such things were said to have been not easily found at that time in London — her companion on the raid, Mrs Marshall, hurled a more expensive missile, namely this cricket ball, through a Cabinet Minister's window, whence it was retrieved and came into Wilcox's hands. The ball carries in gold lettering the retailer's name, Army & Navy, and in black ink the protesters' message, "A PROUD & COWARDLY KING" and, beneath the stitching, "1914". The leather surface of the ball is intact apart from a few black stains and half a dozen tiny punctures, which may have been caused by the glass as the ball shattered the window. A piece of British, if not exactly cricketing, history, but a prize piece of cricketana rescued and preserved.

Rescue, too, as well as a feminine connection, was the keynote of our other late entry, involving a blazer from the 1929-30 MCC tour of the West Indies. This navy blue garment, adorned with the familiar George and Dragon badge and red and yellow piping, was found in a rubbish skip in Cheltenham by a husband whose wife had been diligently clearing out piles of unwanted stuff found in the loft. Seeing the name tag, he telephoned a friend to ask whether anybody named R.E.S. Wyatt had played for England. By happy chance the friend was also the chairman of Derbyshire County Cricket Club, and the rest is another bit of history. The blazer turned out to be the only one missing from Wyatt's collection, and Warwickshire, his former county, arranged for it to be returned, to him during the Edgbaston Test match of 1989. Sixty years on, England's then oldest living Test player, and captain, was thus reunited with a treasured item presumed lost forever. What was it doing in Cheltenham? The house outside which it was rescued was believed to have belonged to Wyatt's brother.

Until quite recently the collecting of cricketana was an apparently arcane pursuit, dominated by a handful of collectors and part-time dealers, but the advent of regular sales by leading London auction houses in 1978 has brought it to a far wider audience and attracted a far wider range of material on to the market. This has, inevitably, led to an escalation of prices, much to the chagrin of some collectors who feel themselves squeezed out by the greater buying power of the full-time dealers and who question the morality that lies behind the commercial ethos, feeling that cricketana belongs to the world of cricket, not to the world of business. It has to be accepted, however, that the market-place is



Stained-glass splendour: R.G. Barlow at the crease on a window which once adorned his house and is now at Old Trafford

now dominated by the auctions, although in global terms the levels are still those of a hobby when compared to the vast sums expended on works of art. Whereas these may be calculated in millions of pounds, cricketana still rates in hundreds and sometimes in thousands. Among competitive sports, however, cricket is rivalled for range and demand only by golf, horse racing, and possibly boxing; the presence of American and Japanese money, particularly in golf, makes for increased competition and thus higher prices than in cricket, although Australian bidders, first prominent at the MCC Bicentenary auction in 1987, are making their dollars felt.

The fun of collecting is not the simple acquisition by passing a cheque over a counter; it is the fun of search, discovery and attainment. All three are the fruits of accurate knowledge gained the hard way, for to be a real collector

one needs a fatalistic outlook, a deep purse, boundless optimism and a good-natured woman about the house.

Collecting becomes a serious affliction that cannot be operated upon. No bookshop or gallery worth its salt is safe from attack. Triffid-like, what starts as a hobby mutates into a fascination that can become a compulsion.

The greatest collectors have always been, with but a few exceptions, players of only mediocre ability, their pleasure derived from the ownership of things connected with the heritage of the game, not in itself a bad substitute. Writing in *The Cricketer* (May 2, 1936), J.W. (Joe) Goldman placed himself squarely in that category — and never collected bats and balls, which he claimed not to understand.

No conclusions dare to be made as to why so few active first-class cricketers show so little interest in memorabilia. Even their achievements or records of their representative sides are sometimes shrouded in obscurity. Perhaps life indeed is too short to be both a full-time player and collector, or do players become immune to inanimate historical objects dimly perceived while moving from one pavilion to another? The attitude was typified by Bob Willis, once captain of Warwickshire and England and taker of 325 Test wickets, who said he had no desire "to turn my home into a shrine to myself" — he had always kept his trophies in a suitcase. Willis put his memorabilia up for auction (at Christie's in October 1988) with the laudable wish that devotees, who truly appreciate the art of blazers, shirts, jerseys, balls and medals, might have a chance to own them.

By contrast, one of the first major collectors was that most amiable of men, Richard Gorton Barlow of Lancashire and England (1851-1919), who lived in a house surrounded by memories of bat and ball, cricket trophies and "presents innumerable". With Bob Appleyard, the only other significant collector to have played Test cricket was Evelyn Rockley Wilson (1879-1957). Possessed of a proud Yorkshire snobbery — "One doesn't necessarily know cricket just because one has played for Leicestershire" — Rockley Wilson was a scholarly, crudit man, "a firm believer in the straight bat", and, with a considerable knowledge of furniture, philately and silver, was as close to Renaissance man as cricket could claim since Felix. His home was crammed with cricket pictures, china figures, handkerchiefs and the dining room dominated by a picture of

Collecting becomes an affliction that cannot be operated upon. Triffid-like, a hobby mutates into a fascination that can become a compulsion

Fuller Pile at the wicket. A library of over 3,000 items avoided ephemeral trash and ghosted autobiographies, and under the terms of his will MCC were blessed with first choice of the rich pickings.

Another considerable collector was said to be G. Leonard Garnsey (1881-1951), a Sheffield Shield player for New South Wales, of whom it has been written that he owned all the early Australian annuals. If that is so, "considerable" is an understatement.

How easy it must have been for the pioneer collectors. There were Padwick, Ford and Gaston advertising in *The Field* and *Exchange and Mart*, traversing the home counties, often in concert, purchasing eagerly everything offered for a song, while all around them the motherhood of memorabilia awaited collection with singularly little competition. Cricketana as a hobby was a general occupation for a narrow, almost incestuous, brotherhood of collectors. Among major collectors there was a close alliance: Thomas Padwick was at school with A.L. Ford, and his daughter married Charles Pratt Green; Padwick also happened to be a close friend of A.J. Gaston, who was in turn a close friend of W.L. Murdoch, the former Australian captain, then settled in Sussex.

Other than books, the cricketing cult came into being in the heyday of W.G. Grace, when it was fashionable for houses, both great and small, to be graced with a cricketing piece or two. Supply always rises to meet demand, so that a touch of cricket was applied to a plethora of household and personal articles — clocks, pottery figures, mugs, jugs, ashtrays and jewellery. Around the turn of the century, Gaston's articles in *Wisden* and *The Cricketer* Field stimulated a keen demand for cricket books, but this was short-lived, so that by 1905 F.S. Ashley-Cooper noted that although interest in collecting was as great as ever, albeit within a tight-knit circle, prices were lower than at any period since 1890. With certain notable exceptions, prices actually remained stable and in favour of the collector virtually from Edwardian days to after the Second World War.

Such cricket items as did appear at auction were tiny portions of more cosmopolitan sales, but generally the collecting scene was moribund. There was a time between the wars when it was possible to enter an antique dealer's shop, ask for a cricketing piece, and either be met with blank astonishment, or a gruff remark that nothing of that kind had been seen for years, or be offered, from some dusty corner, an autographed bat.

The exact origins of cigarette cards remain imprecise, the best likelihood being that the earliest was an American tobacco card dated 1877, which was discovered in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; but as internal stiffeners for pre-wrapped tobacco they were the dream of advertising mediums. Cheap and adaptable, they made their mark in the grey, drab streets of newly industrialised towns toward the end of the last century, offering scraps of colour to rootless, half-literate men and their families. The cards appeared first as singles, then, once the consumer was hooked, as sets in series.

Entrepreneurs were quick off the mark to meet the great male interest in sport. The first known issue to portray cricketers turned up in Australia, c. 1886, packaged by a New York firm, Goodwin & Company, under the brand name Old Judge and entitled 'Celebrities'. In-depth research was evidently not a strong point at Goodwin's, for there are some strange aberrations in the naming of players: R.C. Barton (R.G. Barlow), Billing (Pilling) and J.E.R. Stud (Studd). The same company produced Old Judge Cigarette Factory base cards of an assortment of other celebrities around 1890, among them Blackham, Bonnor, Boyle, Giffen, McDonnell and Walters. Three of these were snapped up for £155 at a Caxton Hall auction in 1975, a percentage only of their value today. Another transatlantic company, the American Tobacco Company, was responsible for Bonanza and Dollar brand name sets, and again the choice of people in the public eye included cricketers — S.E. Gifford, Trotter, Ford, Phillips, Richardson and Ward.

Added by the mechanisation of

Pasteboard tribute with a score in thousands

Willis were quick to learn from the impact made in America by pictorial cards, and their printers, Mardon's, are thought to have run off a pioneering set in 1887, soon to be followed by the first of many runs by John Player & Sons in Nottingham. As part of the "tobacco war" of 1899-1902, Ogden's of Liverpool introduced their Guinea Gold photographic cards, then their 'Tobos', and, prior to their sale to Imperial Tobacco in 1902, so rampant in size were their issues that they are still commonplace. The Imperial Tobacco Company dominated the market in the first years of this century, but there were still about 150 other companies, usually very small, quietly doing their own thing to the way of cards.

The printing of cards ceased in 1917, not to begin again properly until 1922. During this period, one of the most celebrated firms issuing high-quality cards went under. This was James Taddy & Company, founded in 1750, whose first series of cards came out in 1887. Originally purveyors of tobacco, tea and snuff, they were one of the earliest companies to introduce packet tobacco, with beautifully produced cards whose dual purpose was to act as stiffeners and to encourage brand loyalty. The abrupt demise of the company, brought about by industrial strife, ended a great era of cigarette cards. The low survival rate of their cards has led to their issues becoming exceptionally desirable rarities.

However, they were but one of the many series of cigarette and trade cards, both monochrome and coloured, international in coverage, which have been assiduously collected for many years and



Cricketing caricatures: cards from 1926, drawn by "Rip" and autographed by their subjects

Between the wars, ornate printing styles and rather stilted textual odes gave way to more functional modes. Prior runs by the great manufacturing companies — John Player, Ogden's, Ardath, Churchman's, Carreras, Godfrey Phillips, R. & J. Hill and J. Millhoff — became ever more gigantic and could be counted in hundreds of millions. On the principle of "lick and stick", special albums were provided by local tobaccoists at the cost of a few pence.

Cricketers were sometimes portrayed within a wide range of other activities, either as politicians, actors, golfers or footballers, so that there are some 12,000 collectable cards, including varieties. While Australian issues are second to Britain, many have come from unlikely countries, such as Italy and Belgium.

From 1900 to the 1930s few first-class cricketers failed to appear, as well as virtually every touring team to Britain since 1899. Some faces have been overlooked, but Bradman features on more than a hundred cards and Jack Hobbs was probably represented on more cards than any other cricketer. W.G. Grace, for once, is well down the field with only about half that many, coming on the scene a little too early for this form of tribute.

Quite apart from pictures of the players, there have been grounds, old cricket prints, umpiring tips, puzzles and games, crests, ties, souvenirs, comic cards by Phil May, Punch cartoons, as well as comic characters such as Bonzo and Billy Bunter. The 1926 caricatures by "Rip", part of the Player's 'Cricketers' series, are remarkable for their likenesses, characteristic postures and mannerisms.

Few of the cards pretend to a genuine artistic appeal, and perhaps among the most attractive rare — the delicate lithographs produced in Germany for the Wills 'Cricketers' sets of 1896 and 1901. By comparison their later issues, 1908, 1928 and 1929, seem garish. Other catchy early sets are the 1902 'Vanity Fair' issues — three series, each of 50 cards — and the 'County Badges' set printed on silk for Godfrey Phillips. Their 'Pinnacle' sets issued between 1923 and 1925 have a dignity of their own, especially the larger size "brown backs" available from the Godfrey Phillips stand at the 1924 British Empire Exhibition.

Others look amateurish beyond belief, and a particularly striking example is the series produced by J. Baines of Bradford. These date from the 1880s to 1914-18 or thereabouts, with some 40 cards shaped as shields, hearts, ivy leaves and so forth. Generally monochrome, with a band across the shield in different colours, they were distributed through local

The price of cards has moved sharply upwards in recent years and shows no signs of abating. Most issues between the wars are relatively easy to find, less so those from overseas. Issues pre-1914 are an entirely different matter — even in 1962 figures of £5 per card were mentioned, with 2s. (10p) the bottom line for less rare items, and some of the scarcer issues had not changed hands for 20 years or so. Rarity and price do not depend on age alone and some comparatively recent sets — especially those issued with confectionery such as the famous Barratt's issues of the late 1920s and 1930s, which include several lesser known players — can be extremely elusive. Cards issued up to 1905 are always heavily in demand, even in only fair condition. The classic sets such as the 30 cards of the Wills 'Cricketers' of 1896 and 1901 will always command a premium, even though they may not be as rare as the Pattriooux photographic 'Cricketers' series of 96 cards, which is nigh impossible to find complete, despite its being as recent as 1922. A single Wills card from the 1896 set (Lockwood) was bought for £18 in November 1984, while the 1901 set was valued at £250 in 1983, and single cards a year later at £5 each. The 1896 set now stands tall at £1,500. As for the Pattriooux set, they now average around £30 a card.

A prime attraction at a November 1984 auction was a full set of 25 D. & J. Macdonald's 'Cricketers' (1902), estimated at £500-£800, which reached the astronomical figure of £2,600. A decade earlier a similar set realised £285. Fry, Grace, Jessop, MacLaren and Ranji are among those portrayed in this set issued from Glasgow, with the Winning brand

the greatest challenge lies in acquiring long series of cards such as Taddy's 1908 series of 238 county cricketers. Being white background cards they are not easy to find in clean condition, added to which they appear to have been issued on a regional basis, making certain counties harder than others. A portion of the set, 195 in all, realised £2,400 at Phillips in November 1987, and a total of £228, sold by county, soared to £5,825 in May 1989, with the 15 Northamptonshire cards making double any other county at £850.

All pre-1914 cards sell well, but those from the 1930s, printed in millions, find a slower market. The famous Player's issues for 1934 and 1938, usually about 10-20p per card, are regularly to be found in shop windows, framed and mounted and selling for around £14.50. Since 1982-83 the 'Nostalgia' reprints by Murray Cards of facsimile issues of the two early Wills sets, accordingly lettered at the base and framed in brass, are often to be seen as office displays, an elegant addition to wooden panelling in VIP corners.

Complete sets are always desirable and most sets up to the value of £50-£60 are available, given time. Beyond that it becomes a question of patience, and the dilemma is whether to acquire odd cards in a series or wait for the set. More often than not, the sets are in better condition than the singles, and it is still possible to upgrade as time goes by. Mint cards can often be worth three or four times the value of ones in inferior order, and dealers nowadays are only too aware of the value of their stock.

Extracted from *The Wisden Book of Cricket Memorabilia* by Marcus Williams and Gordon Phillips, with a foreword by John Arlott, to be published next Thursday.

Bishops Yarn to relish conditions

By Mandarin
(Michael Phillips)

Bishops Yarn is my selection to win the Greenall Whitley Gold Cup at Haydock Park. From what we have seen, the Toby Baldwin-trained 11-year-old is in his element contesting this sort of race on heavy ground at the Lancashire track.

The conditions underfoot were similar last year when he won the Peter Marsh Handicap over today's trip.

When he attempted to win the same race again in January, Bishops Yarn was beaten half a length by Nick The Brief.

But for a stumble on landing over the last fence, which caused him to lose his impetus, he might well have won. As it was, he still did well since he was trying to give 5lb to the horse who has subsequently won the Vincent O'Brien Gold Cup in Ireland.

I nominate Ritus and Travel Over as the main dangers.

The handicapper appears to have given Ritus an excellent chance of beating The Thinker judged on their run there behind Baies in December, while Travel Over will appreciate racing near today's distance again after blatantly failing to last 3½ miles at Wolverhampton 12 days ago.

To coincide with the Timeform Chase, the sponsors have just published their annual review of the most recent Flat season - Race Horses of '89.

As it lives up to the enormous high standard set last year by the late Phil Bull, readers will get excellent value for the £59 that it costs far better value than by backing my selection Blazing Walker if he goes as badly as he did at Ayr last time.

But as that was so out of character with the rest of his



Martin Pipe looks set for flurry of winners

record this season, I'm happy to give him the chance to atone.

Dalkey Sound, my selection for the final of the Tattersalls Mares Only final, was beaten 2½ lengths last time out by Radical Lady. As the latter has won twice since, she was obviously far from disgraced.

Furthermore, she will now be meeting Radical Lady on 11lb terms.

Vestris Abu, Jim Bolger's Irish challenger for the Victor Ludorum Hurdle, should only be a run to his recent Leopardstown form with Bank View to cope with his four rivals on these terms.

At Newbury, I like the look of Ghebar's chance of winning the Geoffrey Glibbe Memorial Handicap Chase even though the distance is well short of that over which he won the Hennessey Gold Cup in November.

It would be wrong to lose sight of the fact that Ghebar has only 1½ lengths by Man O' Magic in a valuable race over today's trip at Ascot in the autumn.

After a rest, his most recent race over hurdles should have been a morale-boosting warm-up.

As far as the day's best bet is concerned, none appeals more

than Vault to win the Highbere Novices Hurdle. A pretty decent horse on the Flat when trained by Luca Cumani, Vault performed with eye-catching promise in his only race so far over hurdles, at Wincanton where he finished fourth.

While conceding that Dark Desire, Fair Prospect, Ivors Guest and Man For All Seasons all boast better form on paper, I still believe that it will prove worthwhile going along with Vault.

Earlier in the programme, his stable companion The Miroy, who is a half-brother to that top class but tragically ill-fated jumper Teo Plus, will begin his chasing career contesting the Philip Cornes Nickle Alloys Novices Chase. In my view, he will excel if he beats Commandante.

As far as the Philip Cornes Saddle Of Gold Hurdle is concerned, I like none more than the course and distance winner Minnehoma.

HAYDOCK PARK

Selections

By Mandarin

- 1.00 Dalkey Sound.
1.30 Blazing Walker.
2.00 Bishops Yarn.

- 2.30 Vestris Abu.
3.00 Proud Crest.
4.00 The Aoteara.
4.30 Flakie Dove.

Michael Seely's selection: 2.00 Bishops Yarn.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.30 VESTRIS ABU.

Going: heavy

1.0 TATTERSALLS MARES ONLY NOVICES CHASE FINAL (Limited handicaps: £7,440; 2m 4f) (13 runners)

1	231151	CORVASSIO 17 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
2	112121	DALKEY SOUND 40 (B.D.S.) (Mrs G Hovey) 7-11-12.	P Nelson	80
3	1212-31	ITT FOR FIRM 20 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
4	620-14	BLAZE RAINBOW 40 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
5	22111	BETTER COUNTRY 24 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
6	4-4122	RANDOM ROMANCE 12 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
7	12214	RECTOR 24 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
8	4-4122	RANDOM ROMANCE 12 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
9	4-4122	RANDOM ROMANCE 12 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
10	4-4122	RANDOM ROMANCE 12 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
11	4-4122	RANDOM ROMANCE 12 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
12	4-4122	RANDOM ROMANCE 12 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
13	4-4122	RANDOM ROMANCE 12 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81

Long handicaps: 1.00 Dalkey Sound, 1.30 Blazing Walker, 2.00 Bishops Yarn, 2.30 Vestris Abu, 3.00 Proud Crest, 4.00 The Aoteara, 4.30 Flakie Dove.

BETTING: 5-5 Blazing Walker, 5-2 Tartan Tack, 5-2 Formula One, 5-1 Felle Na Hise, 14-1 Only Trouble.

1989: SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE 6-11-10 A Merrigan (Evens fav) W A Stephenson 3 ran

1988: ONLY TROUBLE 6-11-10 G McCort (7-11) T Houtbrook 16 ran

1987: ONLY TROUBLE 6-11-10 G McCort (7-11) T Houtbrook 16 ran

1986: ONLY TROUBLE 6-11-10 G McCort (7-11) T Houtbrook 16 ran

1985: ONLY TROUBLE 6-11-10 G McCort (7-11) T Houtbrook 16 ran

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1964: ONLY TROUBLE 6-11-10 G McCort (7-11) T Houtbrook 16 ran

1963: ONLY TROUBLE 6-11-10 G McCort (7-11) T Houtbrook 16 ran

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1933: ONLY TROUBLE 6-11-10 G McCort (7-11) T Houtbrook 16 ran

1932: ONLY TROUBLE 6-11-10 G McCort (7-11) T Houtbrook 16 ran

1931: ONLY TROUBLE 6-11-10 G McCort (7-11) T Houtbrook 16 ran

1930: ONLY TROUBLE 6-11-10 G McCort (7-11) T Houtbrook 16 ran

2.0 GREENALL WHITLEY GOLD CUP (Handicap chase: listed race: £21,120; 3m) (11 runners)

1	123-22	THE THINKER 87 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
2	123-22	THE THINKER 87 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
3	123-22	THE THINKER 87 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
4	123-22	THE THINKER 87 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
5	123-22	THE THINKER 87 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
6	123-22	THE THINKER 87 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
7	123-22	THE THINKER 87 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
8	123-22	THE THINKER 87 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
9	123-22	THE THINKER 87 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
10	123-22	THE THINKER 87 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81
11	123-22	THE THINKER 87 (B.D.S.) (Mrs J Matthews) O Hughes (nr) 8-11-10.	C Swann	81

Long handicaps: 1.00 Dalkey Sound, 1.30 Blazing Walker, 2.00 Bishops Yarn, 2.30 Vestris Abu, 3.00 Proud Crest, 4.00 The Aoteara, 4.30 Flakie Dove.

BETTING: 5-5 Blazing Walker, 5-2 Tartan Tack, 5-2 Formula One, 5-1 Felle Na Hise, 14-1 Only Trouble.

1989: SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE 6-11-10 A Merrigan (Evens fav) W A Stephenson 3 ran

1988: ONLY TROUBLE 6-11-10 G McCort (7-11) T Houtbrook 16 ran

1987: ONLY TROUBLE 6-11-10 G McCort (7-11) T Houtbrook 16 ran

1986: ONLY TROUBLE 6-11-10 G McCort (7-11) T Houtbrook 16 ran

1985: ONLY TROUBLE 6-11-10 G McCort (7-11) T Houtbrook 16 ran

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1940: ONLY TROUBLE 6-11-10 G McCort (7-11) T Houtbrook 16 ran

1939: ONLY TROUBLE 6-11-10

Employment Appeal Tribunal

Law Report March 3 1990

Notice payment within definition of wages

Kouravos v J. R. Masterton & Sons (Demolition) Ltd
Before Lord Mayfield, Mr B. McAuley and Mr A. J. Ramsden
[Judgment February 22]

A payment in lieu of notice came within the definition of wages in section 7(1) of the Wages Act 1986 and an industrial tribunal had jurisdiction to consider a claim by an employee that in failing to make such a payment his employer had made a deduction from his wages contrary to section 1(1) of the Act.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal sitting in Edinburgh held when allowing an appeal by the employee, Manousos Kouravos, from the decision of a Glasgow industrial tribunal in August 1989 that they had no jurisdiction to hear his claim against his employers, J. R. Masterton & Sons (Demolition) Ltd.

Section 7 of the 1986 Act provides: "(1) ... 'wages', in relation to a worker, means any sums payable to the worker by his employer in connection with his employment, including (a) any fee, bonus, commission, holiday pay or other emolument referable to his employment, whether payable under his contract or otherwise; and (b) any sums payable to the worker by his employer in connection with his employment, whether payable under his contract or otherwise."

Section 8 provides: "(3) Where the total amount of any wages that are paid on any workday by an employer to any worker employed by him is less

than the total amount of the wages that are properly payable to him, then, except in so far as the employer can prove that the deficiency is attributable to an error of computation, the amount of the deficiency shall be treated ... as a deduction made by the employer from the worker's wages on that occasion."

Mr Joe O'Hara, legal officer of the General Municipal Boilermakers, for the employee, the employers did not appear and were not represented.

LORD MAYFIELD said that the employee was involved in an industrial accident in 1985. He did not return to work and after a certain amount of correspondence his employer wrote to him in February 1989 terminating his employment.

The employee submitted to the industrial tribunal that he was entitled to notice on termination of his employment, as notice had not been given, he was entitled to a sum appropriate to his wages and length of service, and that failure to pay such sum was a deduction in terms of section 1(1) of the Wages Act 1986.

The industrial tribunal took the view that payment in lieu of notice represented damages for breach of contract by terminating the employee's contract and did not fall within the definition of wages.

But, the question whether

payment in lieu of notice was recoverable only by suing for breach of contract begged the question in issue. The question was not whether pay in lieu of notice was damages or unpaid wages, but whether the industrial tribunal had jurisdiction under the Wages Act 1986.

It was not fatal to an employee's claim that there were deductions that were not recoverable at common law.

Regarding had to be paid to the employee under section 8(3) which required an industrial tribunal to ascertain the wages "that are properly payable" by the employer to a worker on a particular occasion.

Accordingly, as an industrial tribunal had been given jurisdiction in relation to the 1986 Act, it was necessary to consider the provisions of the Act to ascertain whether wages in lieu of notice were within the jurisdiction of the industrial tribunal.

"Wages" were defined in section 7(1). It was clear that the general words of that subsection were couched in wide terms, referring as it did to "any sums payable to the worker by his employer in connection with his employment."

The words "any sums" had to be regarded as meaning what they said. In the tribunal's view, they were clearly intended to include any and all payments connected with employment.

It was difficult to see how a payment of wages in lieu of notice was other than intimately connected with employment.

The word "including" in section 7(1) was not exhaustive and the subsection dealt with a variety of matters which often appeared in terms and conditions of contract additional to actual wages.

The general words were not limited to sums payable under a contract. Furthermore, section 7(2) dealt with express exclusions, and it was not unreasonable to deduce that the matters there set out had been expressly excluded because otherwise they would fall within the general words.

Accordingly, the tribunal had come to the conclusion that wages in lieu of notice fell within the wide words of section 7(1) of the Act.

It was as much a sum payable to the worker in connection with his employment as holiday pay, and therefore might be included in the words "or other emolument" which were referable to his employment.

The industrial tribunal had also concluded that where nothing at all had been paid, that could be a "deduction." It was assumed that they were referring to section 8(3) of the Act.

The effect of that subsection was that, where there was no payment, on an occasion where less was paid than was properly payable to the worker, the shortfall was to be treated as a deduction for the purposes of section 1(1) of the Act.

In the tribunal's view, where the employer did not make a deduction, but the employee did not receive the wages he was entitled to, the wages were not due; but the employer was not liable to make a deduction, that constituted a deduction.

For the purpose of section 8(3) there was no distinction between a deduction which was not the subject of dispute, and a deduction or shortfall which was in dispute because the employer said he was not liable to make the payment.

There was force in the contention that if the Act was not to apply to a total non-payment, it could not be a deduction of 100 per cent of the wages due on any occasion.

The reference to "wages that are paid on any workday" in section 8 did not require that some payment be made on the day there could be a deduction.

It was a matter for the industrial tribunal to determine, on the facts of the case, what was "properly payable" and, if the matter was in dispute, the tribunal had jurisdiction to determine that matter.

The tribunal regretted that, having reached its decision, it had become apparent that it differed from the almost simultaneous judgment in *Delaney v R. J. Staples (t/a De Montfort Recruitment)* (The Times February 8, 1990).

Regina v Brightman
Regina v Alath Construction Ltd
Before Lord Justice Russell, Mr Justice Turner and Mr Justice Potts
[Judgment February 20]

Where a tree which was the subject of a preservation order was cut down, the burden of proof, on the issue of whether it had become dangerous so as to justify its felling without the local authority's consent under section 60(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971, fell upon the person responsible for cutting it down.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing the appeals of Grenville Geoffrey Brightman and Alath Construction Ltd against their convictions on January 24, 1989 in St Albans Magistrates' Court.

Section 60(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 provides that local authorities may make tree preservation orders if it appears "expedient in the interests of amenity" and may by such order prohibit "subject to any exemptions for which provision may be made by the order, the cutting down, topping, lopping, uprooting, wilful damage or wilful destruction of trees except with the consent of the local planning authority."

Without prejudice to any other exemptions for which provision may be made by a tree preservation order, no such order shall apply to the cutting down, uprooting, topping or lopping of trees which are dying or dead or have become dangerous, or the cutting down, uprooting, topping or lopping of any trees in compliance with any obligations imposed by or under an Act of Parliament or so far as may be necessary for the prevention or abatement of a nuisance."

Mr David A. Pearl for the appellants; Mr Philip A. Waller for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE RUSSELL said that Mr Brightman was the director of Alath Construction Ltd, a company involved in property development, which owned a plot of land in Berkhamsted, in which there were a number of trees. The company developed the site, building dwelling houses upon it.

In May 1984 the local planning authority made a tree preservation order embracing the plot. Among the trees standing on the land was a beech tree, which was one of the dwelling houses. The appellants made a number of applications for permission to fell the beech tree, but they were all refused.

In October 1988 there was a great storm which ravaged many areas of the UK. It was common ground that on October 17 the beech tree was cut down upon the instructions of the appellants, without the permission of the planning authority.

A prosecution was instituted and the appellants elected trial. After arraignment a preliminary point was raised as to the burden of proof it being contended on behalf of the appellants that the burden of proving that the tree was not dying or dead or had become dangerous, or the cutting down, uprooting, topping or lopping of any trees in compliance with any obligations imposed by or under an Act of Parliament or so far as may be necessary for the prevention or abatement of a nuisance."

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Section 78 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 in refusing to exclude evidence.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) so held in a reserved judgment in dismissing an appeal brought by Gary Dunn against his conviction at Palmer Crown Court (Judge Palmer, QC and a jury) on February 3, 1990 on two counts of aggravated burglary.

Section 78 of the 1984 Act provides: "(1) In any proceedings the court may refuse to allow evidence on which the prosecution proposes to rely to be given if it appears to the court that, having regard to all the circumstances, including the evidence obtained, the admission of the evidence would have such an adverse effect on the fairness of the proceedings that the court ought not to admit it."

Mr Gary Summers, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for Dunn; Mr Anthony Leonard for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE LLOYD, delivering the judgment of the court, dismissed the appeal in relation to the first count.

As to count two, it was argued for the appellant that the judge was wrong not to have excluded evidence of admissions said to have been made at the end of an interview.

There were clearly serious breaches of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PCEA) Codes of Practice by the police, as the judge had found.

First, there was no contemporaneous note of the disputed conversation.

Second, the reason for the absence of a contemporaneous record was not recorded in the police officer's note book.

Third, and most important, the appellant was not given the opportunity to read the subsequent record, said to have been made within a few minutes of the completion of the interview, so that he could either sign it or correct or indicate the respects in which he considered it inaccurate.

Thus, there were clear breaches of paragraphs 11(3)(b)(ii), 11(6) and 12(12) of Code C.

It was submitted in the court below that those breaches justified the exclusion of the evidence under section 78(1) of the 1984 Act.

In *Regina v Canale* (The Times November 5, 1989) Lord Lane, Chief Justice, emphasized the importance of precise compliance with the provisions of the 1984 Act.

He found the conduct of the police in that case lamentable, and observed that police officers still did not seem to appreciate the importance of observing the Act and the accompanying codes. The present case was another in the same series.

The judge said in his ruling that there had been no countervailing considerations which would have excused his discretion so as to exclude evidence of the conversation.

But he was influenced by the fact that the solicitor's representative, Mrs Hemmings, was present throughout the alleged conversation.

Having regard to her presence, the judge held that the admission of the evidence would not have such an adverse effect on the fairness of the proceedings that he ought to exclude it.

The question was whether her presence was a relevant factor in deciding whether to admit the evidence. It was argued that Mrs Hemmings' presence made no difference.

The only consequence of the breach of Code C was that the court had been "deprived of the knowledge which should have been available to it, namely of

precisely what was said by the police officer in the interview." *R v Delaney* (1988) 88 Cr App R 338.

If the detective constable failed to show his notes to Mrs Hemmings, as well as the appellant, he only compounded the error. The consequence remained the same.

Their Lordships saw the force of that argument. On the other hand it would seem contrary to common sense to regard the presence of the solicitor during the disputed conversation as irrelevant.

The judge's reason for admitting the evidence was that Mrs Hemmings was there to protect the appellant's interests. Their Lordships agreed with that line of reasoning.

In the first place Mrs Hemmings could have intervened at any time during the conversation before the relevant answers were given.

Second, her mere presence would inhibit the police from fabricating a conversation which did not in fact take place.

Third, if they were to fabricate a conversation despite the inhibition, then it would not simply be a question of this evidence against the evidence of the appellant. The appellant's solicitor would be there in evidence, as she did, in support of the appellant's case.

The presence of the solicitor was a factor which the judge was entitled to take into account in the exercise of his discretion.

Before leaving the case their Lordships wished to stress again the importance of the police complying strictly with the Codes of Practice.

Their Lordships did not underestimate the seriousness of the breaches in this case. The presence of the solicitor's representative during the disputed conversation did not excuse those breaches, but it tipped the balance in favour of admitting the evidence. But for Mrs Hemmings' presence, the evidence would have been rightly excluded.

Solicitors: CPS, Acton.

Regina v Dunn
Before Lord Justice Lloyd, Mr Justice Tudor Evans and Mr Justice Hiddleston
[Judgment February 22]

The presence of a solicitor's clerk at an interview was a factor which a trial judge was entitled to take into account in the exercise of his discretion under section 78 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 in refusing to exclude evidence.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) so held in a reserved judgment in dismissing an appeal brought by Gary Dunn against his conviction at Palmer Crown Court (Judge Palmer, QC and a jury) on February 3, 1990 on two counts of aggravated burglary.

Section 78 of the 1984 Act provides: "(1) In any proceedings the court may refuse to allow evidence on which the prosecution proposes to rely to be given if it appears to the court that, having regard to all the circumstances, including the evidence obtained, the admission of the evidence would have such an adverse effect on the fairness of the proceedings that the court ought not to admit it."

Mr Gary Summers, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for Dunn; Mr Anthony Leonard for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE LLOYD, delivering the judgment of the court, dismissed the appeal in relation to the first count.

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There were clearly serious breaches of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PCEA) Codes of Practice by the police, as the judge had found.

First, there was no contemporaneous note of the disputed conversation.

Second, the reason for the absence of a contemporaneous record was not recorded in the police officer's note book.

Third, and most important, the appellant was not given the opportunity to read the subsequent record, said to have been made within a few minutes of the completion of the interview, so that he could either sign it or correct or indicate the respects in which he considered it inaccurate.

Thus, there were clear breaches of paragraphs 11(3)(b)(ii), 11(6) and 12(12) of Code C.

It was submitted in the court below that those breaches justified the exclusion of the evidence under section 78(1) of the 1984 Act.

In *Regina v Canale* (The Times November 5, 1989) Lord Lane, Chief Justice, emphasized the importance of precise compliance with the provisions of the 1984 Act.

He found the conduct of the police in that case lamentable, and observed that police officers still did not seem to appreciate the importance of observing the Act and the accompanying codes. The present case was another in the same series.

The judge said in his ruling that there had been no countervailing considerations which would have excused his discretion so as to exclude evidence of the conversation.

But he was influenced by the fact that the solicitor's representative, Mrs Hemmings, was present throughout the alleged conversation.

Having regard to her presence, the judge held that the admission of the evidence would not have such an adverse effect on the fairness of the proceedings that he ought to exclude it.

The question was whether her presence was a relevant factor in deciding whether to admit the evidence. It was argued that Mrs Hemmings' presence made no difference.

The only consequence of the breach of Code C was that the court had been "deprived of the knowledge which should have been available to it, namely of

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If the detective constable failed to show his notes to Mrs Hemmings, as well as the appellant, he only compounded the error. The consequence remained the same.

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The presence of the solicitor was a factor which the judge was entitled to take into account in the exercise of his discretion.

Before leaving the case their Lordships wished to stress again the importance of the police complying strictly with the Codes of Practice.

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The question was whether her presence was a relevant factor in deciding whether to admit the evidence. It was argued that Mrs Hemmings' presence made no difference.

The only consequence of the breach of Code C was that the court had been "deprived of the knowledge which should have been available to it, namely of

Oral agreement with union sufficient to justify deduction

York City & District Travel Ltd v Smith
Before Mr Justice Wood, Mr J. Dwyer and Mr A. D. C. C. C.
[Judgment February 21]

When an employer made a deduction from an employee's wages in reliance on a variation to the worker's contract of employment as contained in a collective agreement with the trade union, the variation need not have been agreed orally at the time of the deduction, on account of which the deduction was made and it would be wrong to infer that such agreements were not effective unless reduced to writing, without evidence to justify such inference.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal so held when allowing an appeal by the employer, York City & District Travel Ltd, from a decision of a Leeds industrial tribunal in April 1989, and remitting for rehearing a claim by the employee, Mr Stuart Smith, that money had been illegally deducted from his wages.

Section 1 of the Wages Act 1986 provides: "(1) An employer shall not make any

deduction from any wages of an employee employed by him unless ... (a) it is required or authorised to be made by virtue of ... any relevant provision of the worker's contract ..."

Mr Timothy Hartley for the employer; Mr Patrick Elias for the employee.

MR JUSTICE WOOD said that the employee was employed as a travel office clerk. On August 9, 1988, his wages were reduced by 10 per cent. The previous day were found to be missing.

Though it was not suggested that he had misappropriated them, the fact that they were not where they should have been indicated that the proper procedure for their safekeeping had not been followed.

On December 8, 1988, a deduction was made from his wages which he claimed to be illegal under section 1 of the Wages Act 1986.

The employee relied on a variation to the contract of employment which provided that the employer was entitled to deduct any cash shortages from the wages of staff handling cash.

By virtue of section 13(b) of the 1986 Act a variation of the original contract of employment might be oral but must be notified to the employee in writing prior to the date of deduction and by section 13(c) the variation must have been agreed before the deduction was made.

The employer conducted negotiations for the terms and conditions of employment of its employees with the Association of Clerical, Technical and Supervisory Staff. In March 1988 an agreement, including the variation relied on, had been sent to the trade union representative.

There was no finding of the date on which it was signed. Minutes of a union committee meeting on June 10, 1988, recorded receipt of the agreement and that it would be duly signed.

An agreement in identical form was signed by each side and dated September 9, 1988. The tribunal said, "although we find that there was an agreement it was not implemented and ratified until September 9."

The employer argued that the tribunal had found that there was an oral agreement evidenced in writing by June 10, and that the tribunal erred in looking for a ratification in writing.

The tribunal decision concluded. Consequently at the date when the employee was alleged to have been responsible for cash shortages the document was not then implemented ... consequently we find that the deduction was illegal."

It was submitted that the indication was that the tribunal was throughout looking for a written agreement, whereas the variation of a written contract of employment was not required to be in writing.

A number of formidable points were made on behalf of the employee. Most importantly, the industrial members of the appeal tribunal were asked to bring their experience to bear and to find that such agreements were always reduced to writing and were not effective until that had been done.

There was no evidence before the appeal tribunal as to the practice of the present employer or trade union or about general practice. There was no indication that the industrial members of the industrial tribunal had brought their experience into the deliberations.

The industrial members of the appeal tribunal took the view that it would be wrong to indicate that there was a general practice or rule of good industrial relations that such agreements should be or were almost always reduced into writing.

Unless there was evidence before a tribunal to justify the inference that such an agreement must be in writing, it would be an error to approach consideration of a case such as the present with that fixed notion.

The industrial tribunal decision was so unsatisfactory that it must be considered to be flawed. It did not give a direction in law; it did not define the issues; it omitted some essential material facts; it did not allow the parties to understand the reasoning.

Solicitors: Kirby, Harrogate; Patinson & Brewer.

Lyric Shipping Inc v Internormals Ltd and Another (The Al Tah)
Before Mr Justice Phillips
[Judgment February 22]

A "reasonable deviation" of a ship within article IV, rule (4) of the Hague Rules could be a deviation planned before the voyage began or the bills of lading were signed.

Mr Justice Phillips so held in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division in giving judgment for Lyric Shipping Inc, the plaintiff owners of the ship, against Internormals Ltd, the defendant charterers.

The ship was chartered under a charterparty which incorporated article IV, rule 4 of the Hague Rules.

Article IV, rule 4 of the Hague Rules provides: "Any deviation in saving or attempting to save life or property at sea, or any reasonable deviation shall not be deemed to be an infringement of this article, and the carrier shall not be liable for any loss or damage resulting therefrom ..."

Mr Anthony Clarke, QC and Mr Charles Macdonald for the plaintiff; Mr David Steel, QC and Mr Paul Walker for the defendant.

MR JUSTICE PHILLIPS said that the ship was chartered under a charterparty which incorporated article IV, rule 4 of the Hague Rules.

Article IV, rule 4 of the Hague Rules provides: "Any deviation in saving or attempting to save life or property at sea, or any reasonable deviation shall not be deemed to be an infringement of this article, and the carrier shall not be liable for any loss or damage resulting therefrom ..."

Mr Anthony Clarke, QC and Mr Charles Macdonald for the plaintiff; Mr David Steel, QC and Mr Paul Walker for the defendant.

MR JUSTICE PHILLIPS said that the ship was chartered under a charterparty which incorporated article IV, rule 4 of the Hague Rules.

Court of Appeal
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- IN PATAGONIA: EMOTIONAL GEOGRAPHY
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THE TIMES SATURDAY MARCH 3 1990

TRAVEL 59

TRAVEL

Caribbean cricket-hopping

Inspired by England's success in the first of the five West Indian Tests, James Henderson and Brian Viner propose a sporting island tour



Universal obsession: cricket is played everywhere, and represents the Caribbean's sturdiest ladder to fame

The Jamaicans are the second best hustlers in the Caribbean. The Haitians are better, but there can't be too many Caribbean experiences more intimidating than being hustled in a Kingston side street.

"Hey London, what's happenin'?" What can you do for yer, man? The hustler offers a complete inventory of services of doubtful appeal, but he has the *lyric*, and once he's found his line and length he won't be stonewalled. Inevitably, you end up parting with cash.

The cricketing metaphor is an apt one. Mention the game and this Caribbean Arthur Daley becomes your best friend.

In Jamaica, where England started its five-Test series so splendidly, cricket is a national obsession. During a Test match the otherwise relentless rap of dance-hall reggae falls silent, because every radio is tuned to the commentary from Sabina Park. Politics divide, but cricket unites — a cliché, but an apt one, for the nation is led in its love of cricket by none other than Michael Manley, the Prime Minister.

His book, *A History of West Indian Cricket* (published in 1988), has an introduction by former captain Clive Lloyd. "Cricket," Lloyd says, "is the ethos around which West Indian society revolves. All our experiments in Caribbean integration either failed or have maintained a dubious desirability; but cricket remains the instrument of Caribbean cohesion."

More than that, West Indian cricket reflects the Caribbean way of life, both in its diversity of colour and its uniformity of spirit. The British can be tremendously proprietorial about cricket, and about the democratic political system we have bequeathed to the Caribbean, but the West Indies has given both its own stamp.

In Guyana, host to the second Test, March 9-14, fewer than a million people live in a country larger than Britain, most of them along a coastal strip which skirts impenetrable mountains and rain-forest.

Desperately poor and beset by economic problems, Guyana, on the South American mainland, is included in the West Indies because of its British heritage. Here, as everywhere in the Caribbean, youngsters defend biscuit-tin wickets on any piece of open ground. The bigger boys bat and bowl (always with a bent arm) and the toddlers man the outfield. Clive Lloyd himself graduated from cricket on a Guyanese dirt-track.



from cricket on a Guyanese dirt-track.

As in Trinidad, where the third Test is to be played on March 23-28, the population of Guyana is a surprising mix. About half the Guyanese are of East Indian stock, their ancestors brought over as indentured labourers after the final emancipation of the African slaves in 1838.

In both Guyana and Trinidad, the evening skyline is silhouetted with the prayer-flags of the Hindus and the domed mosques of the Muslims faithful. And East Indians, too, have left their mark on West Indian cricket, in players like the graceful little Guyanese left-hander, Kalicharran, and Sonny Ramadhin, the mesmeric Trinidadian spinner of the 1950s.

Trinidad lies seven miles off the Venezuelan coast. It is the home of the Caribbean Carnival, an explosive month-long celebration of calypsos and fetes (rum and dancing parties) which culminated on Shrove Tuesday. Port of Spain heaved with the masquerade. Bands of brightly dressed dancers a thousand strong were all shifting in time.

But in the hills above Port of Spain life goes on as normal. It was there, in the Maraval valley, that we came across a dozen kids playing cricket in the road. In turn we were handed the makeshift bat and sent in to defend the inevitable biscuit-tin lid against the might of the gangly Winston, aged 11. Is it possible to swing an ancient tennis ball? Anyway, it took just two deliveries to humiliate us both; two tremendous clatters and peals of little-boy laughter from the outfield. "Well you better bowl man, if yer kyan bat."

Who knows if one of these

25 years of the domestic championship, once the Shell Shield and now the Red Stripe Cup, Barbados has been victorious a record 12 times. Such stars as Gordon Greenidge and Malcolm Marshall have ensured a smooth transition from the Sobers era.

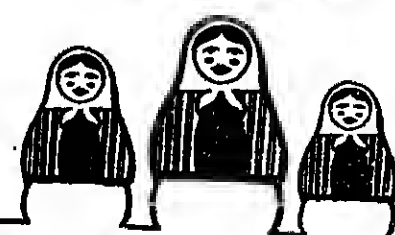
The Leeward island of Antigua, where the final Test of the series gets under way on April 12, is smaller even than Barbados. It is also the youngest nation of the five Test hosts, having gained independence in 1981.

Like Barbados, Antigua derives most of its income from tourism. Two hundred years ago it was just another sugar factory, its every square inch covered with swathes of 12ft sugar cane interrupted now and then by a plantation house and windmill. Now just the conical shells of the mills survive and the countryside is bare; but it is the beaches, used only for smuggling in the 18th century, that people come for.

TRAVEL NOTES

A number of companies offer tours covering Test and One-Day Matches in Trinidad, Barbados and Antigua. Gullivers Sports Travel arranges trips to individual islands and combinations (between 17 and 24 days). Information: 0684 293 175. Caribbean Connection also offers individual island packages and combinations to the last three Tests. Independent travellers can be fitted in. Information: 01-631 4482. For the independent-minded, it is possible to find accommodation at this time of year but being high season it can be expensive (single travellers beware — rooms are usually charged as doubles). Test Match tickets cost about the same as they do in this country: £15-£25 per day.

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Carryick Colligan (R)	24, 25/25C064	8/25S115	35, 36/25004	52/5P006
30/18056	MALTA	CPV Labin Sol (R)	51, 52/25029	42, 43/5P005
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48, 49/18032	25, 27/18024	40/25S116	Wimpy Las Brisas (R)	16, 17/1P001
Elmas Court (R)	Ocean Club at Ramla Bay (R)	CPV Puerto Don Miguel (R)	8, 9/18042	38/1P015
41/25025	40, 41/18022	25, 30/25S131	Lanzarote Beach Club (R)	42/2P014
40/25076	Topaz Beach Club (R)	Pueblo Erika (R)	34, 35/25030	Silvana Beach
Villanova Court (R)	32, 33/5S023	44/18046	7, 8, 9, 10/18083	43, 44/1P010
10/25070	17/5S026	Sunset Beach (R)	Cala Llonga	Vale Navia (R)
The Llandudno Village (R)	15, 16/18025	48/18050	12/25059	42, 43/5P006
22/25078	MAINLAND SPAIN	CANARIES AND BALEARICS	PORTUGAL	Vale do Lobo (R)
22/25082	Lula Playa (R)	Beverly Hills Club (R)	Avenida Beach Club (R)	22/3P020
The Chiswick Hotel (R)	12/15081	24, 25/18036	37, 38/5P019	BAHAMAS
48/25080	51/25S117	30/5B043	Four Seasons CC (R)	Lakeview Manor Club (R)
Wilton Hall (R)	Club San Antonio	Club Martinez (R)	38/2P007	51, 52/5S008
8/18071	45/5047	41, 42, 43, 44/18035	26, 27/1P013	10/18073
25/18086	El Capitan (R)	Sunset Harbour (R)	23, 24, 25/2P007	10/18073
22/25087	47, 48/18052	7, 8/18036	Lux Bay Club (R)	12/18073
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Stepping out: mummy Jackie Roberts takes four of her charges for a walk in the grounds of Woolley Grange, set in 14 acres

At home on the Grange

Peter Brown finds a British hotel that actually welcomes children

The waitress bowed. "Everything all right for you?" The five-year-old made history. He never normally talks to strangers. "Why," he demanded, "is my guinea-fowl taking so long?"

The inevitable conclusion of the kitchen must have been that we considered the service slow. Not so - the bird had only just been ordered - but I bet they'll never believe it at Woolley Grange, where the staff is extremely attentive.

One difficulty with children is that they don't play by the rules. On the face of it, taking them to a hotel for a weekend seems like courting trouble. The latest *Good Hotel Guide* says that too few hotels in Britain welcome children. One in three establishments simply will not have them.

Well, experiences may have told. Those books that parents never have time to read until they get away for the weekend are full of brats so unbelievably obnoxious that people pay to have them removed. Aren't they what you go to hotels to get away from?

Our children, needless to say, are not like that, and it was for the parents of Sophie, Alexander, Thomas, Amelia et al that Woolley Grange was invented last year. A graceful, multi-chimneyed Jacobean pile on the edge of Salisbury

ple, came pot-roasted with baby leeks scooped in a Sauternes sauce; among the other dishes on offer was "soufflé of beef scented with white truffle and woodland mushrooms served with chopped tarragon". The head chef, Anand Sastry, is a protégé of Raymond Blanc and his exotic creations were much appreciated, even by the five-year-old sharing a plate with us.

After lunch we dragged the kids from the coach-house and wandered into the wool and rubber town of Bradford,

birthplace of the Moulton bicycle, still made there. The guide books were right: it was rich in interesting buildings, weavers' cottages, up-and-down alleys, a shambles, a Saxon church. Not one of them held our children for a moment - not even the town bridge, the work of seven centuries, which boasts a 17th century chapel, later a prison.

Thank heaven for the recreation ground which you will find just this side of the town. It was one of those still, sunny, greenhouse afternoons. We swung the baby and kicked a ball about, and blew bubbles out of a can.

Back at the hotel the children scrambled for the coach-house while we were pampered in the conservatory with tea and silence. Even without the bargain bubbles, those few hours of blissful privacy would have made the weekend worthwhile.

TRAVEL NOTES

Woolley Grange (Woolley Grange, Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire, BA15 1TX; tel 0221 64705) has 20 rooms, ranging from £75 to £135 a night. Weekend breaks until the end of March are £120-£160 and include all meals, newspapers and an activity - sports coaching, a visit to the theatre or a spa. From April there are 10 per cent discounts for stays longer than four days.

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TRAVEL

Brush up the old paintwork

Painting is one of those activities which nearly everyone thinks it would be fun to take up, if only there was enough time. It looks so enjoyable and relaxing and this initial impression is true. Painting is totally absorbing. There are now a large number of painting holidays and short breaks available, both at home and abroad; some are for just a weekend, others are for two weeks or more; all are with tuition from qualified artists.

These holiday courses begin at the most elementary level and progress to what are virtually master-classes. Between them they cover all the disciplines: water-colours, oils, pastels, gouache, pen and ink. Subject matter is equally varied with specialist courses on such areas as painting portraits or miniatures, Chinese brush painting, still life, landscape and life drawing.

Many of the courses take place in lovely locations at the ideal time of year when the weather is likely to be warm, the flowers



are out, and artistically floppy hats will not look at all out of place on those who are painting out of doors. Not only are the courses good fun, they are also effective. Most people return with new skills and much-needed confidence.

As hobbies go, painting is fairly inexpensive. Most of the travel companies will supply a comprehensive list of the items you require for any particular course or holiday. If you take to the pastime and want to go a little further, an easel will cost between £25-£30, and a stool about £15. It pays to buy good quality materials, but the beginner can start painting for an outlay of no more than £50.

A magazine, full of advice for would-be artists, is *Leisure Painter*, published monthly by Artist Publishing Company, Caxton House, High Street, Tenterden, Kent TN30 6BD (05806 3673). Price £1.35, annual subscription £17.50.

Robin Neillands

PAINTING HOLIDAYS

The widest range of painting holidays and courses comes from Artscape Holidays of Southend-on-Sea, which caters for every level of ability over a wide range of disciplines, including oils, water-colour, acrylic and pastels.

Two introductory holidays aimed at complete beginners are "Principles of Oils", which costs £287 for seven days, full board and tuition included, and "Principles of Water-colours" at £346, also one week and full board. The more

experienced could try "Advanced Oils" in August, from £289 for one week, all inclusive.

Although the groups are kept small, it is not uncommon for different levels of ability to attend the same nine. Much of the tuition is on an individual basis, and the students also learn from each other. Advice on holiday choice can be obtained from Mrs Elsie Lloyd at Artscape. In Britain the company's holidays are often based at agricultural colleges, where the facilities are excellent and the surrounding countryside full

of interest, but Artscape also runs holidays abroad.

Would-be Van Goghs can try 10 days of "Landscape Painting" at St Remy in Provence from £950, or "Building and Landscape Painting" in the Belgian city of Bruges, which once played host to the Van Eycks. A painting week in Bruges costs from £379 in June or July. Study courses, which include guided visits to art galleries and museums, are available in Florence and Paris from £493. Other holiday painting locations include Siena in Tuscany and Gubbio in Umbria.

UK HOLIDAYS

A relaxed holiday, which also offers provision for the non-painting partner, comes from Trusthouse Forte which runs a number of "Painting in Water-colours" breaks as part of its "Country Pursuits" programme in 1990.

These are based in comfortable hotels at attractive locations like Grasmere in Cumbria and Padstow in Cornwall. All are led by experienced artists. Participants pay from £89 for a weekend course, full board and tuition included. They also receive a Daler Rowney painting pack of materials for use during the weekend which they can take home afterwards. The non-participating partner pays from £66, also for two days.

A longer stay is available from Countrywide Holidays of Manchester at its centres at Hope in the Peak District, and Ambleside and Grasmere in Cumbria, from £162 to £183 per week, depending on course and location.

Courses cover both oil and water-colour painting, mostly landscapes, starting with basic techniques and moving to a more advanced level. There are individual fact-sheets for all these holidays.

Painting is also among the many activities offered by HF Holidays ranging from "Painting for Beginners" and "Water-colours for Beginners", to "Drawing for Fun" and a new one: "Cartooning". Prices start at around £210 for one week, full board, including tuition.

SHORT BREAKS

Closer to home, a range of weekend, mid-week and full-week courses on all aspects of art are available throughout the summer at the Earnley Concourse, situated near Chichester in West Sussex.

These include seven days on "Water-colour Painting for Beginners" in early June from £270 for residents, full board, or from £152 for non-residents.

A week "Drawing and Painting Churches", including lectures and visits, costs a similar sum; while four days on "Further Steps in Water-colour Painting" for the more advanced student, cost £182 for residents and £104 for non-residents.

Full details and brochures can be obtained from the Earnley Concourse on the telephone number given below.

The Field Studies Council (FSC) is another body which includes painting among a wide range of other activity holidays, and sets many of them at the Flatford Mill Study Centre, deep in the heart of Constable country.

Many of these FSC painting courses are wedded to a wildlife theme and involve painting trees or flowers. Courses available include "Landscape Painting and Drawing", one week, full board for £172, or "Introducing Flower Painting", five days for £140.

There is also a weekend on "Working with Water-colours", which is an introductory course for those interested in learning the basic techniques of water-colour painting. Price £85, full board.

These FSC painting courses cover a wide range of subjects: portrait, landscape, flowers and still-life, and the tuition, from professional artists such as Roy Freer and Grenville Cottingham, is of a high standard.



Lavenham, Suffolk: "A little amateur painting shows the innocent and quiet mind", wrote Robert Louis Stevenson in 1881

"Willows, old rotten planks, slimy posts, and brickwork, I love such things... those scenes made me a painter and I am grateful", wrote John Constable in a letter, 1821

ABROAD

Cox and King offers a far-flung range of painting holidays in Kashmir, Spain, Greece, Italy and France. These include four French painting centres, in the Auvergne at Cordes, Brantôme and Ribérac, as well as at painter's dream, the fishing port of Honfleur in Normandy.

Prices vary, but 16 days in Kashmir, staying at Srinagar, costs from £1,395; eight days, based at Le Cheval Blanc in Honfleur, costs from £630. Surfer TWIO GUA (01-940 5668) for £1,400 including p.p.

A further selection of painting holidays can be found in *Time to Learn*, published by the National Institute for Continuing Adult Education (NIACE), 19B De Montfort Street, Leicester LE1 7GE, £2 post free.

Another useful source of information on painting and other kinds of activity holidays is *Let's Do It*, published by William Curtis at £2.95, available at bookshops.

Lombard in Brantôme costs from £565 or, for two weeks, £815. Full details on all Cox and King painting and activity holidays are available from the company at the telephone number below.

Serenissima demonstrates the seriousness of its approach to art by having its 1990 brochure illustrated by such artists as Graham Rust and Sir Hugh Casson. Two weeks cruising and painting in the Aegean costs from £1,795, a long weekend inspection of the Thyssen art collection in Lugano costs from £740.

Something rather less expensive is available from that excellent company, Intravel of Helmsley in Yorkshire, which offers painting and drawing holidays by the River Tarn in France from £344 for seven nights. These holidays are run by Jacqueline Black, an artist who lives in France and offers tuition in oils, crayon, gouache and pastels - in which she specializes.

Voyages Jules Verne has a comprehensive range of painting holidays in such splendid

settings as Dubrovnik in Yugoslavia, Kas in southern Turkey, Selva in the mountains of Mallorca, Mount Olympus in Greece and Kandersteg in Austria, as well as, for something completely different, Gjirokastra in Albania (politics permitting). A week here in October costs from £545, a week in Venice in June from £1,149.

Painting is also among the growing range of activity holidays, 40 in all, available from Saga Holidays of Folkestone. Trips available include a two-centre holiday in Capri and Sorrento, half-board with tuition available, from £569. Groups here are usually kept to about 20 to 25 to allow scope for plenty of personal tuition. Saga is also taking painting groups to Nerja on the Costa del Sol, 14 days from £377; in the UK, holidays available include seven nights' painting at St Ives in Cornwall, at Rothsay in Scotland, or at Ventnor on the Isle of Wight. Prices from £171.

This is only a small recommended selection of painting

holidays from the vast choice available. Whatever your level of ability and whatever medium suits you best, or even if you have yet to decide if painting really is for you, there are plenty of holidays and plenty of opportunities to find a style that suits you.

INFORMATION

Artscape Painting Holidays, Southend (0702 617900). Intravel (0439 711111). Voyages Jules Verne (01-724 6624). Serenissima (01-730 8941). Countrywide Holidays (061 225 1000). HF Holidays (01-203 8411). The Field Studies Council (0743 850674). The Earnley Concourse (0243 670392). Saga Holidays (0303 857000). Trusthouse Forte County Pursuits (01-567 3444). Manor Studio, Westbury (0380 860320). St David's Painting Holidays, Dyfed (0437 720414). Mounts Bay Art Centre, Cornwall (0736 66284). Yard Farm Studio, Taunton (0984 55555). Twelve Island Holidays (Greek Islands), Romford (0708 752653).

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TRAVEL NEWS

In a bit of bother abroad? Think twice before asking the British Consul for a helping hand. He is a hard man these days, and may tap your relatives for funds before dipping into the taxpayers' pocket.

The number of travellers sent home on a consular IOU has dropped from 445 in 1986 to 129 last year. Few of those assisted default on repayment, which is in condition of having one's passport returned.

Leads detailing what a consul can and cannot do to help British travellers in overseas emergencies are available from travel agents.

Vietnam's history and culture are the subject of a 15-day tour from Oriental and Occidental. The tour leader on the £2,100

holiday in early August will be Vietnam expert Paul Clives of Eton College. Information: 01-673 1074.

Lufthansa and the East German airline Interflug are expanding air services between the two Germanys in the summer timetable, which comes into operation on March 25. Pending government approval, Lufthansa will be raising the number of weekly flights to East Germany to 14. Interflug will operate 17 flights weekly connecting Leipzig and Dresden with Düsseldorf, Hamburg and Cologne/Bonn. Information: 01-408 0442.

Shona Crawford Poole
Travel Editor

TRAVEL BOOKS

Hamish Brown describes coast to coast walking as a "contagious disease". The author of *Scotland Coast to Coast - A Long Distance Walk from Glasgow to Arbroath* (Patrick Stephens Ltd, £6.99) has clearly got the bug. Brown has done the trip 20 times. The book is the ideal companion for those wanting a challenging two-week adventure, and comes with lots of practical advice on accommodation, what to pack, bits of history to cheer you through the rough patches - and the offer of an annual update on information about the walk.

The traveller who is more interested in masonry than beaches will be grateful for a new series of "Architectural Guides for Travellers" published by Viking (£11.99 each). The first three books in the series focus on *Mosque*, *India* (by C. E. R. Tilston), *Islamic Spain* (Godfrey Goodwin) and *Classical Turkey* (John Freely). Each book summarizes the history of the period and people covered, and examines their architecture and its development, with detailed descriptions of buildings of particular interest. Pictures are black and white

and there are maps and plans of many structures. The text is more serious than the average guidebook but is not too academic for the layman with an interest in the subject.

Quality ratings are awarded to B&Bs in *AA Inspected Bed and Breakfast in Britain* (AA Publishing, £5.95). All of the 3,000 B&Bs listed are awarded up to four Q-symbols indicating the standard of facilities and services offered from a single Q for clean, modest accommodation to four Qs for the top 165 B&Bs.

Jenny Tabakoff

SNOW REPORT

Travellers to the Alps spent most of this busiest of peak season weeks huddled indoors, shutters barred against the wind and the rain. But yesterday morning sunshine broke through at most resorts, though it continued to snow lightly in western parts of France and Switzerland. After a week of snow, here and there, in abundance.

The prospects for immediate skiing, and for this new snow lasting, are better than after the season's first major snowstorm two weeks ago.

As with that weather event, this snow was accompanied by hurricane winds and rain. The difference this time is that the rain came before the snow. This means that there is now

an underlying sandwich of heavy, wet slush between the old base and the increasingly lighter layers of new snow which fell this week. Unlike last time, the top coating of snow, in some places thigh-deep, can honestly be called powder.

Look forward to sunny but cold days throughout the Alps, particularly in southern regions, with some new snow in the north-west.

The best of the snow, as usual, fell on the higher resorts in the north and the west of the Alps. The south and the east of Austria did less well, as did Cortina in Italy, which is still only 75 per cent open. Skiers, especially intermediates, will find that the large,

Doug Sager

***** AUTO *****

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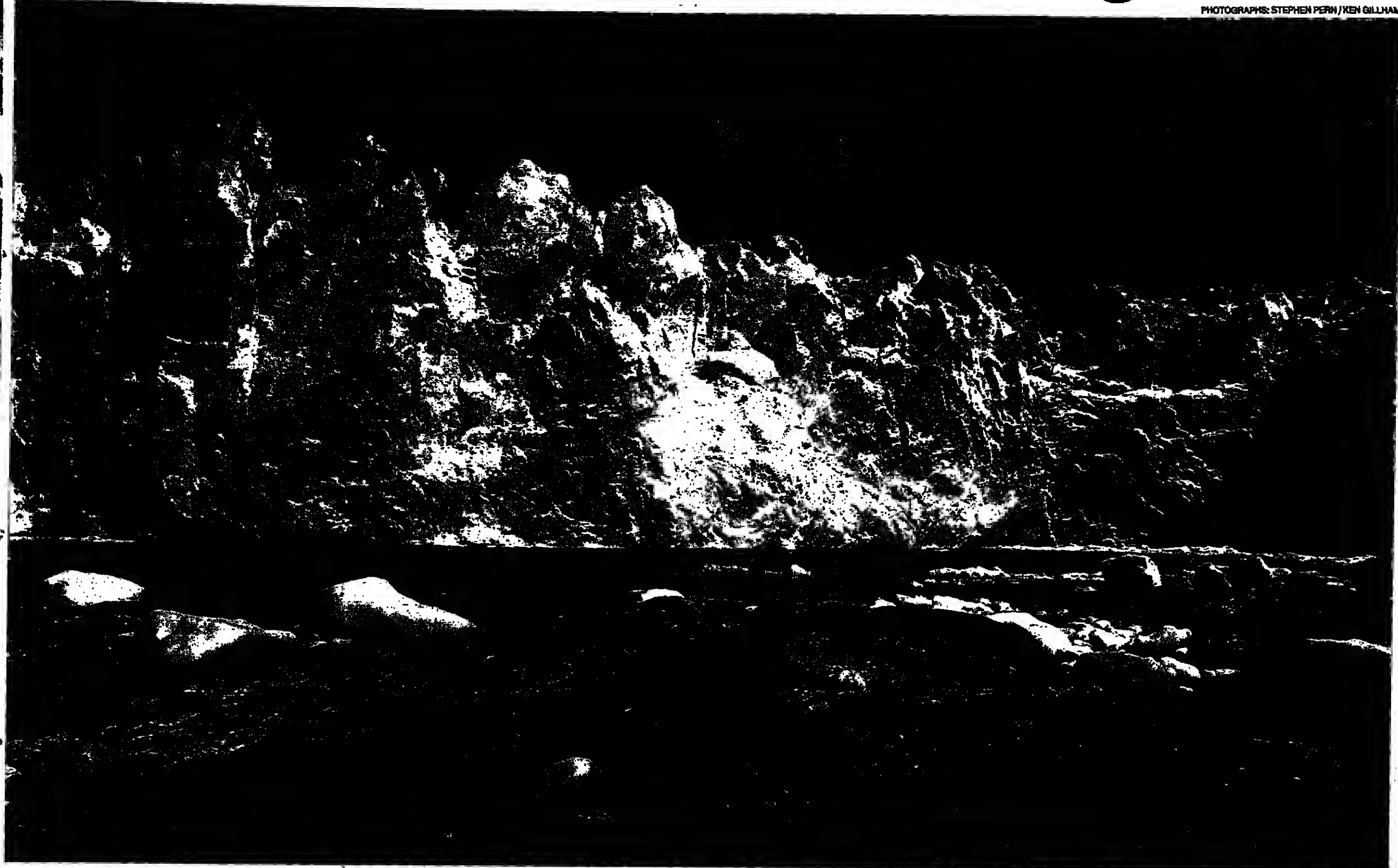
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TRAVEL

Stepping ashore in Patagonia

PHOTOGRAPHS: STEPHEN PERIN / KEN GILLHAM



Awesome, majestic: the Moreno glacier in Patagonia, edging down from white, sharp-toothed mountain peaks — a silent, wild and barren place where even the summer winds bite through the land at up to 85mph; winds that smell good, clean from Antarctica

Before reading Bruce Chatwin I half believed that Patagonia was located in one's emotional geography, approximately at the same latitude as Camelot and El Dorado; its shores were scoured by little curly seas, there were signs saying "Here be Dragons", and I was afraid.

Now that the airlines have reduced the globe to the size of a credit card, we remind each other that we know it intimately, but we are wrong. The faster we travel the further we are separated from our true destination; horizontally, we are aware, yet of the depths we remain ignorant. In Patagonia we are forced to explore these depths; anything less is futile.

The vast plateau of Patagonia lies south of Argentina's Rio Colorado, sub-divided into the provinces of Neuquen, Rio Negro, Chubut, Santa Cruz and the Territory of Tierra del Fuego: 780,000 square miles, supporting less than one person per square mile. From Buenos Aires to Ushuaia, the southernmost town in the world, takes four to five days by sea. In December there are 19 daylight hours, with summer winds biting through the land at 70 to 85mph. You can feel this wind, smell it too; it smells good, clean from Antarctica.

I went ashore at Puerto Madryn where 153 Welsh landed off the brig *Mimosa* in 1865, refugees from the coal mines and from Parliament's ban on the Welsh language in schools. They had no reason to like the English; what they wanted was a New Wales untroubled by Englishmen; they found it in Gaiman, 40 miles across the thorn desert in a green valley. They did not want luxury, they wanted to be Welsh. And they still are.

Before heading for Gaiman I drove for three hours over a dirt track to Punta Tombo. I got one puncture and saw three guanacos, a brace of rheas and a few loopy rabbits. Nothing else; not a house, no people. Then I saw the penquins, a hundred thousand busy Fred Astaires all decked out to dance in sleek black tailcoats.

Gaiman had become a hybrid; clinical new villas among adobe brick cottages. I called on the retired bank manager, Archie Griffiths, who, understanding my English, declined to reply in the same tongue, keeping to Welsh and Spanish. In his shiny Ford Sierra he took me to the chapel — *Agorwyd y Capel Cynaf* over the door — showing me the pews carved by his grandfather, reading the Bible to me in his beautifully resonant Welsh voice. A neat, kindly bachelor, he gave me tea in his neat house, a clock insipidly chiming away the hours of his retirement. Then he took me to meet Mrs Tegai Roberts, whose great-grandfather settled here two years



Michael Watkins
travels into the
wilderness of
Argentina and
Chile — and sails
on to the
southernmost
town in the world

before the *Mimosa* arrived. Caernarfon he came from. She had a chintz sofa and two chairs from Wales, and masses of books. She read aloud to me, extracts from Chatwin's visit to the village in the 1970s. "You writers take certain liberties," she admonished me, and went on to tell me about the hymn-singing and local cisteddied.

On my way back to Puerto Madryn the car was buffeted by a swirling wind called *polvo del diablo*, devil's dust. This place seemed remote, but far from Godforsaken; there is a saying hereabouts that God is everywhere, but that His office is in Buenos Aires.

Two days later we entered the Magellan Straits and I landed at Punta Arenas in pursuit of Chatwin's relative, Charley Milward, who, around 1928, attended Matins at St James's church, sitting in a pew with a brass fiddle screwed on for his walking stick. Once he found, imprisoned in glacial blue ice, a

small piece of mylodon skin. I, for my part, found St James's; and, although the pews had been rewired, I found a plaque in memory of Charles Amherst Milward.

At 1184 Jose Nogveira I also found Margaret Harper, a spinster who taught at the British School for 40 years. She remembered Charley and showed me Charley's house, a cross between a chapel and a castle, with an iron gate with crossed "M"s entwined with pre-Raphaelite lilies. She pointed out the Silesian Fathers' Museum, where a particular exhibit caught my eye; a diver of mylodon skin looking like treasure from a schoolboy's pocket: a chunk of peanut-brittle stuck about with coarse red hairs, alive 10,000 years ago. Miss Harper's parents came from Liverpool. "You will write to me, won't you?" she asked as I took her arm across the traffic-free street to her flat.

Somewhere I had picked up the scent of a man who had

worked in the production lines of a Puntas Arenas crab factory. He watched the crabs die in steam, packing their flesh in metal cans. It was rumoured that he had experience of production line technique, having invented and administered a mobile gas oven in Nazi Germany. I searched the telephone book for his name, but he must have been ex-directory.

I had a guide in this frugal Chilean town, a lovely girl with a scrubbed complexion. She told me that she was going to university in Santiago. "It's not too difficult for you to get here," she said, "but it is very difficult for us to get away."

For the next two days my ship, the *Ocean Princess*, steamed through the Beagle Channel, remembered graphically by Charles Darwin. It was grey and chill, the water strewn with a confetti of ice-floes, glaciers edging down mountain crevices.

The only vegetation was the forests of lenga, tortured by wind into unearthly shapes, nature's political prisoners. There was silence and a terrible majesty full of menace. I would not have missed it for worlds; but it was a sober journey, there was nothing to make light of. The ship's band tried, belting out Broadway melodies, but it didn't work; it was like playing Mantovani at an execution.

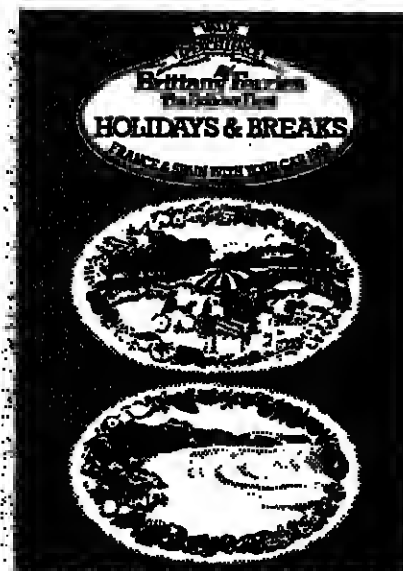
Ushuaia, back in Argentina, seemed the end of the world, final box-room in a great mansion. *Fin del Mundo* T-shirts were on sale at dejected-looking shops. It was a shanty town, created yesterday, doomed tomorrow. There were as many dogs as people, with more than a touch of husky blood. Stiff-necked lupins struggled, a few ragged roses too; as for the rest, it was all weeds and wanton neglect. The surrounding forests, lakes and mountains were a joyous wilderness, but to live in Ushuaia you would need the imagination of a stone.

There was something, the prison, now used as a naval barracks. Its most celebrated inmate, Simon Radwitsky, escaped once, almost froze to death and gave himself up. There is nowhere to go, only hell. Yaghan Indians lived in Ushuaia, but when the Argentine Navy came they died of measles and pneumonia.

I walked the streets, shrugging into my coat, perversely glad to be there. Waving to an armed sentry, he was momentarily thrown off balance, waving back and smiling broadly; the only smile in Ushuaia.

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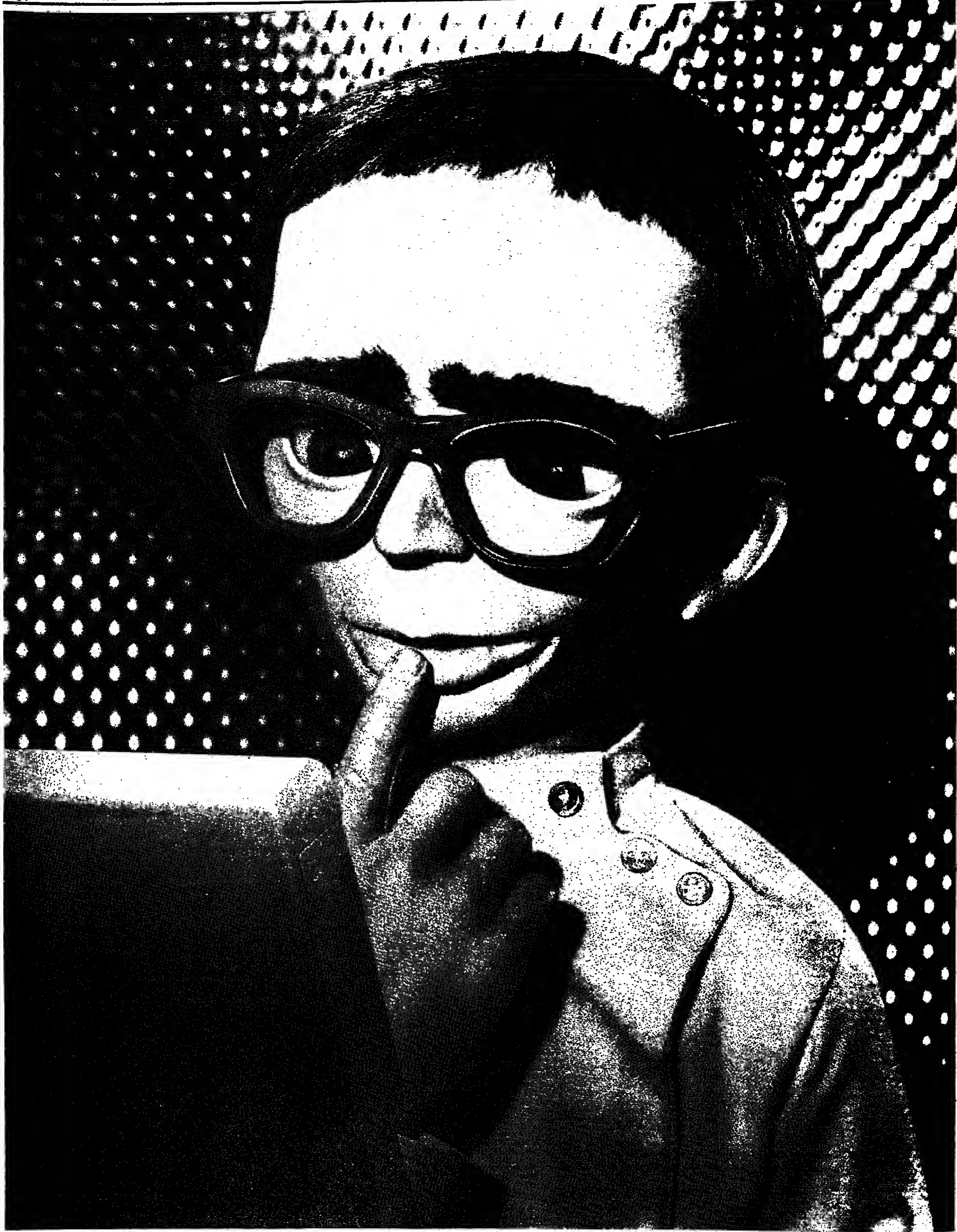
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Ushuaia: the old penal colony and last town before Antarctica

TRAVEL NOTES

● Michael Watkins flew British Airways (01-897-4000) London to Rio de Janeiro, returning Buenos Aires to London Heathrow; PEX fare £819 return, economy class £1,758, Club class £2,256, first class £3,445. Argentine visa required.
● His cruise, "Paths of Magellan", was with Ocean Cruise Lines, 10 Frederick Close, Stanhope Place, London W2 2HD (01-724 7555); 16 nights aboard the *Ocean Princess*, including economy flights to and from London and all meals, but excluding shore excursions, from £1,995 to £3,450 per person (there is an optional excursion to Iguazu Falls at £175 per person).
● Tipping ship staff: allow about £75 per passenger.
● Independent travel in Patagonia is sufficiently popular in summer to lead to a shortage of hotel beds. For up-to-date information on driving conditions, accommodation and facilities for travellers, consult the latest edition of the *South American Handbook* (Trade and Travel Publications, £19.95). Further reading: *In Patagonia* by Bruce Chatwin (Picador, £3.99).
● Reliable Buenos Aires contact for ground arrangements is Furton S.A., Esmaralda 1000 (1007). Tel: 511-1207/8200.



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